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THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 20 June 2007**

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**"I/A" ITEM NOTE**

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from : General Secretariat  
to : Permanent Representatives Committee / Council  
No. prev. doc. : 9455/07 PROCIV 71 JAI 234 COSDP 385 PESC 569  
Subject : Report and revised Manual on EU emergency and crisis coordination  
– Endorsement

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1. Delegations will find in the Annex a draft of the revised version of the Manual on EU Emergency and Crisis coordination.
2. On 1 June 2006, the Council endorsed the Manual on EU Emergency and Crisis Coordination.<sup>1</sup> Firstly, the manual contains internal arrangements for political coordination in Brussels for major emergencies inside or outside the European Union. Secondly, the manual pre-identified 24/7 contact points in the Member States which could be called upon in the event of coordinated terrorist attacks or an influenza pandemic.<sup>2</sup> In order to take work forward, the Council agreed<sup>3</sup> to identify the relevant national contact points for all kinds of emergency and crisis situations and to consider whether a single national contact point for the coordination of all emergency and crisis situations would ensure greater effectiveness.

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<sup>1</sup> 9497/1/06  
<sup>2</sup> 9552/2/06  
<sup>3</sup> 9497/1/06

Moreover, the Council encouraged the Presidency, the Council Secretariat and the Commission to further develop the manual, drawing on best practices under existing bilateral and multilateral arrangements and identifying gaps to be filled, and asked for a progress report to be presented to the Council by 30 June 2007.

3. Work on the identification of **contact points for all kinds of emergency and crisis situations** has been taken forward using a step-by-step approach. In October 2006, the previous Presidency issued a questionnaire which aimed at assessing which Member States have a single point of contact for all kinds of major emergency and crisis situations and at broadening the scope of the manual to cover more than the two scenarios mentioned above.<sup>4</sup> The Member States' replies to the questionnaire were discussed at an expert meeting in Helsinki on 9 /10 November 2006. Participants considered the concept of a single national contact point, its possible role as well as the minimum requirements for such a contact point. Based on the replies from Member States and the discussions at the expert meeting, the Presidency suggested the concept of default national contact points in order to ensure that all kinds of cross-border crisis and emergency situations are covered. Following the replies to a second questionnaire<sup>5</sup> the Presidency submits herewith a revised version of Chapter 2 (list of contact points) of the manual and, where relevant, an updated version of Chapter 3 (Overview of EU Networks and Instruments in the EU and other organisations).
  
4. In order to **further develop the manual, drawing on best practices under existing bilateral and multilateral arrangements** and identifying gaps to be filled, the previous as well as the incoming Presidency organised expert meetings in Helsinki on 9/10 November 2006 and in Lisbon on 12/13 April 2007. Based on various presentations of best practices of cross-border cooperation inside the EU as well as with third countries, the findings of the participants of the meeting in Lisbon were that, in view of their importance, information on bi- and multilateral arrangements as well as on best practices should be recorded, kept updated and made available to users in the Member States. With respect to best practices in the field of civil protection, participants agreed that the Commission's Monitoring and Information Center (MIC) should continue to take a facilitator role, e.g. by creating a virtual library of lessons learned and best practices.

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<sup>4</sup> 13666/06

<sup>5</sup> 7146/07

Participants also felt that in the future also the list of existing agreements contained in the Appendix of the first version of the manual would be better placed in such a library.

Moreover, participants suggested that the General Secretariat of the Council on a regular basis updates the Manual, and in particular the contact details contained in chapters 2 and 3, based on information provided by the Member States. Finally, participants agreed that an evaluation of the practical applicability of the manual should be undertaken not later than 2010.

The Presidency suggested proceeding as proposed by the experts and accordingly has omitted the Appendix from the new version of the manual. Moreover, the Presidency invited the Commission to put a declassified version of the manual (without the contact details) on its webpage.

5. **The EU Emergency and Crisis Coordination Arrangements in Brussels (CCA)** contained in Chapter 1 of the manual remain unchanged. The first CCA exercise took place on 30 October 2006. The General Secretariat of the Council has recently issued an updated version of its internal standard operating procedures (SOP) to support the CCA in Brussels. This SOP is a living document and subject to regular revision. A second CCA exercise is presently being planned to take place during the next Portuguese Presidency.
6. The Working Party on Civil Protection discussed the draft of the revised version of the Manual contained in doc. 9455/07 at its meeting on 22 May 2007 and endorsed it as well as the above suggestions on the way ahead. The text contained in the Annex takes into account minor changes of the contact details submitted to the General Secretariat of the Council by delegations following the above meeting.
7. **Accordingly, the Permanent Representatives Committee is asked to invite the Council, under "A"-items of its agenda, to**
  - **Take note of the progress achieved so far,**
  - **And to endorse the revised version of the Manual on EU Emergency and Crisis Coordination as set out in the Annex.**

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**Manual**  
**on**  
**EU Emergency and Crisis Coordination**

**Brussels, version of 20 June 2007**

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## INTRODUCTION

The present manual on EU emergency and crisis coordination arrangements was submitted to the Council in June 2006 as a response to the request by the European Council (The Hague Programme, point 2.4,) to set up an integrated EU arrangement for crisis management with cross-border effects. It is considered to be a living document which requires permanent updating and adjustment by the Presidency and General Secretariat of the Council.

This manual is based throughout on the key principle of subsidiarity - Member States have primary responsibility for the management of crises within their territory. It does not impose any obligations, nor does it change existing competences. Equally, the manual seeks to recognise the value of mutual support provided between Member States in a spirit of solidarity in the response to emergencies of a significant scale.

In the context of this manual, the notion of crisis management encompasses a wide range of sectors including civil protection, law enforcement, public order and the private sector. The manual is cross pillar and relevant both to external crises and crises within the EU and aims to assist Member States during emergencies. It is without prejudice to existing Crisis Management Procedures for the handling of crisis situations in the context of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (Title V of the Treaty of the EU).

With respect to the scope and the structure of this manual it needs to be noted that all emergencies and/or crises differ in their effects, political impact and respective response activities:

1. A few of the most severe emergencies are of such wide-ranging impact or political significance that they require a coordinated EU response on a political level. These emergencies/crisis are covered through the EU emergency and crisis coordination arrangements (CCA), setting out how the EU Institutions and affected Member States interact in Brussels in a crisis mode. The CCA can be found in [Chapter 1](#).

2. Some emergencies/crises require engagement and sometimes mutual operational support from neighbours, other Member States, EU structures and/or other organisations, without requirement of an EU coordinated response on a political level as mentioned above in paragraph 1. These emergencies/crises are generally covered through well established regional, bilateral, multilateral, EU (e.g. the Commission's monitoring and information centre [MIC]) or other agreements and arrangements, particularly to deal with the most common cross-border emergencies.

For cases in which such arrangements do not exist Chapter 2 provides a list of default contact points of the EU Institutions, of all Member States and of the relevant organisations that can be used when needed at any time (24/7) to help in response to an emergency/crisis.

The information provided by this list will enable the Member States to respond rapidly to crisis situations by giving practical and operational support to the interim CCA and by facilitating cooperation between Member States. The default contact points mentioned on this list are situated in the national capitals and differ from those contact points in the Permanent Representations in Brussels that have been designated for use in case the CCA have been activated.

3. Most emergencies/crises are managed by the affected Member State(s) with no direct support from other Member States or from the EU institutions. National arrangements already exist to manage these emergencies/crisis. Therefore, they are not addressed in this manual.

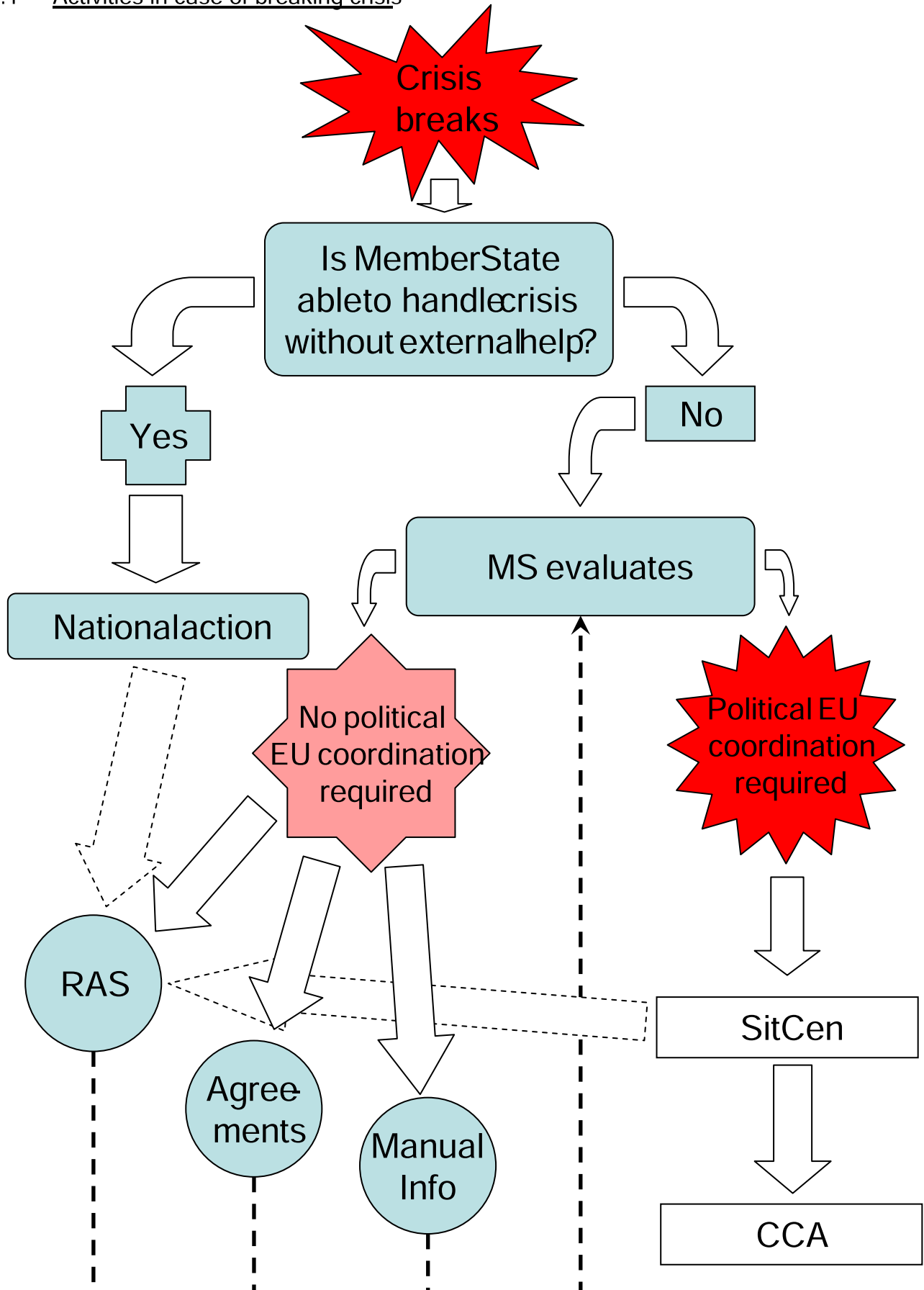
Chapter 3 contains detailed descriptions of the different networks and instruments in the EU and relevant other organisations, which may play a role to manage the emergencies described above in paragraph 1 and 2.

The Annexes to the manual contains a list of reference documents and of abbreviations.



1 Procedures

1.1 Activities in case of breaking crisis



The flow chart above is a summary depiction of information flows and alternative actions to be taken by the affected Member State depending on the impact of the breaking emergency/crisis.

After the breaking of an emergency/crisis the affected Member State will evaluate whether the response can be handled without the support from other countries or the EU institutions.

- If yes, all response actions are taken solely at national level without relying on assistance from other countries or the EU. The affected Member State might however - depending on the scale of the emergency/crisis - inform the specific Rapid Alert System (RAS) of the Commission (e.g. MIC).
- If no, the Member State will evaluate whether the emergency/crisis is of such an impact that
  - no political EU level coordination is required:  
In this case the affected Member State will either
    - alert the specific RAS (e.g. MIC) and/or
    - trigger bi- and multilateral agreements and/or
    - consult the default contact details of the manual.
  - political EU level coordination is required:  
In this case, the information will be conveyed to the SitCen immediately. The precise procedures for triggering the interim CCA are described below.

## 1.2 Interim EU Emergency and Crisis Coordination Arrangements<sup>1</sup>

### Procedure in the event of a breaking emergency or crisis (see flow chart attached)

1. Information on any breaking emergency or crisis shall be conveyed immediately to the General Secretariat of the Council (SITCEN). The SITCEN is manned 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The SITCEN duty number is **+322-281-5000**.
2. The Director of the Sitcen or his designated replacement shall immediately relay the information to the Presidency (duty officer in the Permanent Representation), the Directors of the Private Office of the Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-General of the Council and to the Commission (ARGUS - duty service number +322-292-2222).
3. The Permanent Representative of the Presidency (or his or her designated replacement) will confer with the Council Secretariat (Deputy Secretary-General or designated replacement) and the Commission (Secretary-General or designated replacement), as well as with the Permanent Representatives of any directly affected Member States, to determine whether an emergency or crisis has occurred or is anticipated which warrants triggering the crisis coordination arrangements. The decision on whether to activate them will be taken by the Presidency, in agreement with the Member States directly affected, and be based on expert judgement, in particular on whether the interests of several Member States are engaged in conjunction with those of the EU institutions.

If the Presidency (Permanent Representative) decides to convene a Crisis Steering Group, the Council Secretariat (SITCEN) and the Commission shall immediately be informed of the time and venue of the meeting and the Member States to be invited.

If the Presidency (Permanent Representative) concludes that the arrangements need not be activated at that juncture, he or she shall inform the Council Secretariat, the Commission and Member States consulted.

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<sup>1</sup> doc. 8380/06

4. The Council Secretariat (SITCEN) will convene the principal members of the Crisis Steering Group. It will send a message to the duty officers of all Permanent Representations informing them that a meeting of the Steering Group has been convened. Duty officers in the Permanent Representations will also serve as a point of contact should any information be requested from that Member State by the Crisis Steering Group.

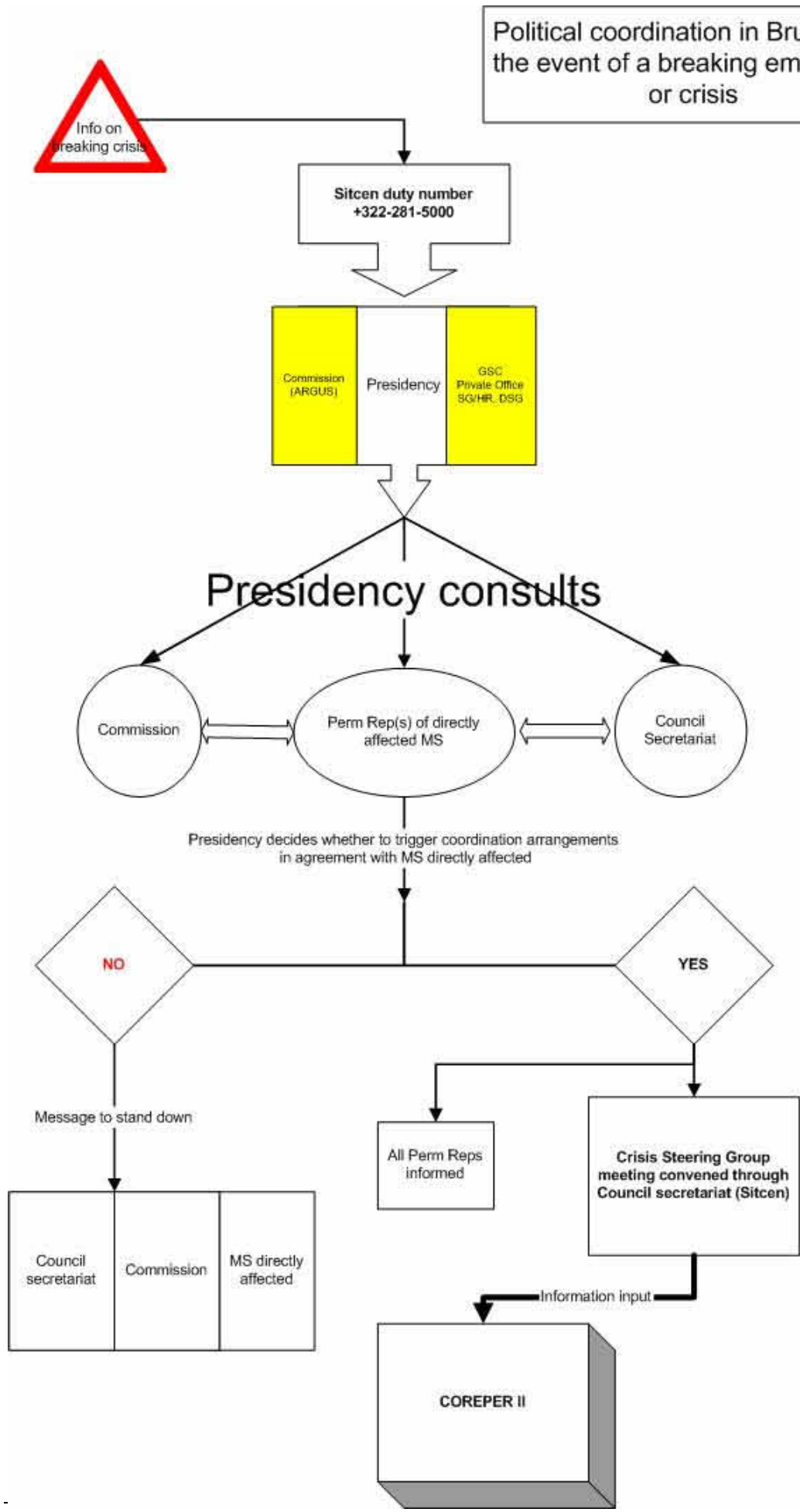
### **Composition of the Crisis Steering Group**

5. The principal members of the Crisis Steering Group are:
  - I. The Council Presidency: the Permanent Representative or his or her designated substitute;
  - II. Affected Member States: the Permanent Representative or his or her designated substitute;
  - III. The General Secretariat of the Council: the Deputy Secretary-General or his or her designated substitute;
  - IV. The European Commission: the Secretary-General or his or her designated substitute.
6. Each of the principal members may be accompanied by a limited number of support staff as necessary (specified in the message convening the meeting). Logistic and secretariat support for the Steering Group will be provided by the Council Secretariat.

## First meeting of the Steering Group

7. The purpose of the Crisis Steering Group (see doc. 15106/05) is to assess the situation and take an initial view on the EU's response; ensure a common understanding of the situation is shared; offer advice to Member States on collective action; develop options for COREPER and the Council; ensure appropriate follow-up; act as a channel through which Member States may communicate needs not covered by existing arrangements; and ensuring that a common communications strategy is deployed with regard to the media.
  
8. The first meeting of the Steering Group will accordingly have, as a minimum, the following agenda:
  - (i) Brief overview of the situation presented by the GSC and the Commission
  - (ii) Briefing by the Permanent Representative of the affected Member States on the situation and the response by the relevant national authorities and other Member States
  - (iii) Briefing by the Commission on assistance requested and provided through Community instruments such as ECHO or the MIC.
  - (iv) Whether any ad hoc expert support machinery needs to be convened;
    - Time and location (depending on number of persons required)
    - Expertise required
    - Tasking to be given
  - (v) Evaluation of possible action at EU level (by Commission/Council);
  - (vi) Evaluation of any decision which needs to be taken by COREPER II/Council.
  - (vii) Preparation of media/messages and press line at EU level (draft press line prepared jointly by the Council Press Office and the Commission);
  - (viii) Follow-up actions - date/time of next meeting of the Steering Group (if required).

Political coordination in Brussels in the event of a breaking emergency or crisis



### **1.2.1 Tasks of COREPER in context of CCA**

In case of internal or external emergencies or crises, the Permanent Representatives Committee (COREPER), given its overall coordinating role and the fact that it can be convened at short notice, is the central body for coordinating decisions within its remit. In order to do so, it will:

- Receive detailed assessments of the situation and be informed about measures already taken by the affected Member States and European institutions. In any emergency or crisis, COREPER would be convened by the Presidency as soon as a clear assessment of the situation emerges from the Crisis Steering Group;
- While respecting national competences and existing Community instruments, promote the coordination and coherence of action taken by the Member States;
- Identify any decisions to be taken by the Council, if necessary, and ensure that such decisions are taken rapidly.

### **1.2.2 Support Machinery**

The Crisis Steering Group is supported by input, expertise and analysis provided by the relevant services of the affected Member States, the Council Secretariat, the Commission and the Presidency. The Crisis Steering Group will accordingly convene meetings of an ad hoc Support Group of senior officials with relevant expertise in order to share information on the crisis, compile agreed situation reports and identify questions and issues for discussion, decision and action.

The composition of the Support Group will reflect the detailed expertise and analysis needed to meet the particular circumstances of each emergency (e.g. transport, health, environment, JHA expertise, etc.). It should make use of existing structures and include:

- a. The EU Joint Situation Centre and the relevant Rapid Alert Systems of the Commission;
- b. Relevant functional experts (e.g. with knowledge of bio-medical or CBRN issues);
- c. Relevant response experts (e.g. with knowledge of the required response to CBRN-terrorist incidents and available capabilities);
- d. Relevant experts with knowledge of the affected Member States and, where appropriate, other relevant experts.

The Council Secretariat will provide support and prepare papers for submission to the Crisis Steering Group from information provided by specialists.

## 2 List of default contact points:

The list below contains the contact details of pre-identified default contact points in Member States, the Commission and the Council Secretariat which could be contacted by Member States in a cross-border crisis or emergency situation if

- no specialised contact point exists, or
- the contacting Member State does not know which specialised contact point to address (e.g. in a multi-sectoral crisis or emergency situation).

Thus, it is taken into account in the manual that specialised contact points exist and that the default contact points included in the manual do not affect the competences of existing contact points. While some Member States identified a single national default contact point, other Member States indicated several contact points and their respective fields of competence.

The default contact points, as a minimum requirement, should be responsible only for internal information flow, without bypassing any responsibilities of existing contact points.

As additional minimum requirements, these pre-identified default contact points should be available 24/7 and its staff should be able to communicate in an international environment.

The information provided by this list will enable Member States to respond rapidly to crisis situations by giving practical and operational support to the interim CCA and by facilitating cooperation between Member States.



## 2.1 European Union

Institution	to be informed	informs	e-mail	24/7 duty	Language
	in major emergency or crisis situations with potential cross-border effects				
Council of the EU	Council Secretariat EU Joint Situation Centre (SitCen) Phone: +32 2 281 5000 Fax: +32 2 281 5853		<a href="mailto:sitcen@consilium.europa.eu">sitcen@consilium.europa.eu</a>	Yes	
Commission of the European Communities	<u>For Member States:</u> Member States contact the sectorial RAS supported by the Duty Office Phone: +32 2 29.22.222 Fax: +32 2 29.55.415			Yes	
	<u>For Council:</u> Council contacts ARGUS in case of triggering of CCA Phone: +32 2 29.22.222 Fax: +32 2 29.55.415			Yes	

## 2.2 Member States

Member State	Contact details of default contact point(s)	Comments
Austria	<b>DELETED</b>	
Belgium	<b>DELETED</b>	

Member State	Contact details of default contact point(s)	Comments
Bulgaria	<b>DELETED</b>	
Cyprus	<b>DELETED</b>	

Cyprus (continued)	<b>DELETED</b>	
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Member State	Contact details of default contact point(s)	Comments
Cyprus (continued)	<b>DELETED</b>	
Czech Republic	Cyprus	

Member State	Contact details of default contact point(s)	Comments
Denmark	<b>DELETED</b>	
Estonia	<b>DELETED</b>	

Member State	Contact details of default contact point(s)	Comments
Finland	<b>DELETED</b>	
France	<b>DELETED</b>	

Member State	Contact details of default contact point(s)	Comments
Germany	<b>DELETED</b>	



Member State	Contact details of default contact point(s)	Comments
Greece	<b>DELETED</b>	

Member State	Contact details of default contact point(s)	Comments
Greece (continued)	<b>DELETED</b>	

Member State	Contact details of default contact point(s)	Comments
Hungary	<b>DELETED</b>	

Member State	Contact details of default contact point(s)	Comments
Ireland	<b>DELETED</b>	

Member State	Contact details of default contact point(s)	Comments
Italy	<b>DELETED</b>	

Member State	Contact details of default contact point(s)	Comments
Latvia	<b>DELETED</b>	

Member State	Contact details of default contact point(s)	Comments
Latvia (continued)	<b>DELETED</b>	

Member State	Contact details of default contact point(s)	Comments
Lithuania	<b>DELETED</b>	
Luxembourg	<b>DELETED</b>	



Member State	Contact details of default contact point(s)	Comments
Malta	<b>DELETED</b>	

Member State	Contact details of default contact point(s)	Comments
Malta (continued)	<b>DELETED</b>	

Member State	Contact details of default contact point(s)	Comments
The Netherlands	<b>DELETED</b>	
Poland	<b>DELETED</b>	

Member State	Contact details of default contact point(s)	Comments
Poland (continued)	<b>DELETED</b>	

Member State	Contact details of default contact point(s)	Comments
Portugal	<b>DELETED</b>	
Romania	<b>DELETED</b>	

Member State	Contact details of default contact point(s)	Comments
Romania (continued)	<b>DELETED</b>	

Member State	Contact details of default contact point(s)	Comments
Slovak Republic	<div data-bbox="383 304 535 341" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">DELETED</div>	
Slovenia	<div data-bbox="383 644 535 681" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">DELETED</div>	

Member State	Contact details of default contact point(s)	Comments
Spain	<b>DELETED</b>	



Member State	Contact details of default contact point(s)	Comments
Sweden	<b>DELETED</b>	
United Kingdom	<b>DELETED</b>	

Member State	Contact details of default contact point(s)	Comments
United Kingdom (continued)	<b>DELETED</b>	

### 2.3 Other EU level actors

Other EU level actors	to be informed	informs	e-mail	24/7 duty	Language
	in major emergency or crisis situations with potential cross-border effects				
Bureau de Liaison	DELETED				
Euroju\$st	DELETED				

Other EU level actors	to be informed	informs	e-mail	24/7 duty	Language
European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)	<b>DELETED</b>				
European Influenza Surveillance Scheme	<b>DELETED</b>				
Europol	<b>DELETED</b>				

## 2.4 International Organisations

International Organisations	to be informed	informs	e-mail	24/7 duty	Language
	in major emergency or crisis situations with potential cross-border effects				
Eurocontrol	<b>DELETED</b>				
International Atomic Energy Agency	<b>DELETED</b>				
Interpol	<b>DELETED</b>				
NATO - Euro Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre	<b>DELETED</b>				

International Organisations	to be informed	informs	e-mail	24/7 duty	Language
	in major emergency or crisis situations with potential cross-border effects				
Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons	DELETED				
UN-Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs	DELETED				
World Health Organisation	DELETED				

### **3 Overview of EU Networks and Instruments in the EU and Other Organisations**

#### **3.1 General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union – The EU Joint Situation Centre (SITCEN)**

##### **Contacts:**

24/7 duty.

Phone: +32 22 81 50 00

Fax: +32 22 81 58 53

e-mail: [sitcen@consilium.europa.eu](mailto:sitcen@consilium.europa.eu)

##### **Activities:**

The EU JOINT SITUATION CENTRE (SITCEN) monitors and assesses events and situations world-wide on a 24-hour basis with a focus on potential crisis regions, terrorism and WMD-proliferation. It is:

- linked to Member States' civilian and, via the EU Military Staff, to the military intelligence service and - with input from these as well as from diplomatic and open sources - provides political and security assessments,
- linked to all Member States' national security services and - with input from these - provides terrorism related assessments related to the internal as well as the external dimension thereof,
- the hub for the formal secure communications networks (CORTESY and ESDP-net) linking the Council to Member States' Foreign and Defence Ministries,

maintains

- links to Member States' national crisis centres. It has a "contacts" database covering key decision makers in Member States and other crisis management centres,
- links with situation centres in other international organisations (UN DPKO, UNICEF, OCHA, OSCE, AU, NATO, etc.),

and

- provides back-up and support for the EU Secretary General/High Representative, EU Special Representatives and other high ranking EU officials as well as for EU military and civilian crisis management operations.

The SITCEN is the backbone of the General Secretariat emergency and crisis response capabilities. These consist of:

- A 24/7 watch. In case of a significant world event which is deemed to have an impact on EU's common foreign, security and defence policies or in case of an incident in one of the EU ESDP missions, the SITCEN Duty Officer (DO) triggers an alert Standard Operating Procedure (SOP).
- The EU Military Staff and the Police Unit likewise have a 24/7 stand-by arrangement with staff on-call. In case of an incident, which affects military or police personnel, the SITCEN DO will first alert the stand-by military or police Duty Officer, as appropriate, following which these, in consultation with their hierarchy, will decide on further measures.
- Where appropriate the SITCEN will also alert the MIC or any other of the Commission's Rapid Alert Systems.
- The SITCEN has at all times a senior analyst on call - the *Duty Manager* (DM), whose responsibility it is to provide analytical support and, as appropriate, supervise the work of the DO in a ERP situation. The DM is also authorised to act on behalf of SITCEN management in an emergency situation until such time that they can be present themselves.
- Every ESDP mission has a support structure in Brussels. The different support structures all have an EU official on call - the *Primary Point of Contact* (PPOC). Once alerted by the SITCEN DO these PPOC will initiate needed action, as appropriate.
- One of SITCEN's units is the Consular Services Unit, whose responsibility it is to liaise with the crisis management offices of the ministries of foreign affairs of the respective Member States. In case of a serious incident affecting EU citizens, the head of this unit will be alerted and ensure further appropriate action in consultation with the consular cooperation network.

**Legal basis:**

Established by a decision by the Secretary General / High Representative of the EU.



### **3.2 Commission of the European Communities**

The Commission has developed over the years the operational capacity to assist in the response to a wide range of emergencies through several rapid alert systems (RAS).

On 23 December 2005, the Commission adopted a general rapid alert system called ARGUS.

This system has two main functions:

- to provide an internal platform to exchange, in real time, relevant information between Commission services and
- to ensure political coordination at high level in case of a major multisectoral crisis.

ARGUS uses an internal electronic communication network to enable Directorates general and RAS to share information in real time. Thus Commission services can improve their coordination and ensure a coherent and efficient response. However, the response to crisis in specific fields stays under the responsibility of sectoral RAS.

Alerts are usually triggered by relevant authorities in Member States. The national competent authorities contact the relevant RAS to notify / to inform / to request assistance. Each RAS manages crisis through their own networks, procedures and expertise and respecting their own mandate.

On the basis of its expertise and assessment, the RAS can identify a major multisectoral crisis or an imminent threat requiring political coordination at high level. A specific coordination process is launched to manage a rapid, coordinated and coherent Commission response, based on all relevant information, in its domains of competence and in cooperation with the other institutions.

Commission services can request their Commissioner to ask the President to trigger the coordination process. The President decides on the allocation of political responsibility for the Commission response and on the convening of the Crisis Coordination Committee (CCC).

The CCC is a specific operational crisis management structure bringing together high level representatives of Commission services involved in the response to the crisis. It will assess and monitor the development of the situation and identify issues and options for decision and action.

National relevant authorities contact ARGUS through the sectoral specific RAS. The Council can call the stand-by duty number +32-2-29.22.222. The commission's Security Office (DS) in Brussels is the 24h/7d operational contact point. Then, according to internal procedures, the relevant duty officers of RAS or relevant Commission's representatives are contacted by the DS.

### **3.2.1 Duty Office Commission**

#### **Contact:**

24/7 duty

DG ADMIN / Security Directorate, Unit DS.1 “Protection and crisis management”

Phone: +32 2 2922 222

Fax: +32 2 2955 415

#### **Activities:**

24/7 hour duty office used to activate many of the other RAS and Crisis Rooms

Crisis management (links with Rapid Alert Systems)

#### **Legal basis:**

[Commission Decision 2001/844](#) of 29 November 2001 amending its internal Rules of Procedure - commission provisions on security

### **3.2.2 Directorate General of European Community Humanitarian Aid Office (DG ECHO)**

#### **Contact:**

ECHO 5 “Ressources humaines, formation, appui administratif, informatique”

#### **Purpose:**

To provide non-discriminatory, apolitical humanitarian emergency assistance in third countries, directly to the beneficiaries, through partners, according to ongoing assessment of needs and in full co-ordination with other humanitarian donors/actors in the field.

#### **Participants:**

Work with non-governmental organisations, UN specialised agencies and international organisations such as the International Committee of the Red Cross or the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

ECHO partners

#### **Link:**

[EUROPA - ECHO - Humanitarian Aid Department of the European Commission](#)

[EUROPA - ECHO - Partners](#)

#### **Legal basis:**

[Council Regulation \(EC\) No 1257/96](#) of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid

### **3.2.3 Monitoring and Information Centre of Civil Protection (MIC)**

#### **Contact:**

24/7 duty

DG Environment, Unit A.5 “Civil protection and environmental accidents”

#### **Purpose:**

- To facilitate and support Member States’ civil protection assistance to countries affected by disaster and requesting assistance
- To ensure that all participating countries are informed of the needs on site and support the mobilisation and coordination of Member States’ teams to assist the disaster-stricken country
- To mobilise and dispatch within a few hours small teams of experts to assess the specific needs on site, to coordinate the assistance operations and to liaise with the competent authorities and, where necessary, with international organisations
- To offer technical support, including, for instance, satellite images and other forecasting tools
- To act as an information centre, collecting validated information throughout the emergency and disseminating regular updates to all participating countries.

#### **Participants:**

EU Member States 27, Liechtenstein, Norway and Iceland

#### **Link:**

[EUROPA - Environment - Civil Protection and Environmental Emergencies Homepage - European Commission / DG XI](#)

#### **Legal basis:**

[Council Decision 2001/792/EC](#) of 23 October 2001 establishing a Community mechanism to facilitate reinforced cooperation in civil protection assistance interventions

### **3.2.4 Crisis Response Mechanism**

**Contact:**

Joint Research Centre

**Activities:**

- To provide the other Commission services with scientific and technical support and access to networks of external expertise and capabilities
- Areas of potential response: biological/chemical, environmental/natural/ technological and man-made hazards and nuclear field.

### **3.2.5 Rapid Reaction Mechanism**

**Contact:**

DG External Relations, Unit A2 “Crisis management and conflict prevention”

**Purpose:**

To respond urgently to the need of countries undergoing crisis or moving towards crisis

**Link:**

[Civilian Crisis Management - Overview](#)

**Legal basis:**

[Council regulation 381/2001](#) of 26 February 2001 creating a rapid-reaction mechanism

**NB:**

DG Relex has a crisis room (Unit A4 “Security Policy”) providing support, monitoring and information services both during a crisis and during periods of regular operations.

### **3.2.6 Early Warning System on Communicable diseases (EWRS)**

**Contact:**

DG SANCO, Unit C3 “Health threats”

**Purpose:**

To alert public health authorities in Member States and the Commission on outbreaks with greater than national dimensions

**Link:**

[EUROPA - Public Health - Threats to health - Communicable diseases](#)

**Legal basis:**

[Commission Decision 200/57/EC](#) of 22 December 1999 on the early warning and response system for the prevention and control of communicable (Second pillar of the Communicable Diseases Network started in 1999)

**NB:**

The EWRS is a telematic system linking the designated authorities in Member States and the Commission. The system allows for immediate exchange of views on risk assessment and risk management crucial for timely public health action.

### **3.2.7 Rapid alert system for food and feed (RASFF)**

**Contact:**

DG SANCO, Unit D2 “Biological risks”

**Purpose:**

To provide the control authorities with an effective tool for exchange of information on measures taken to ensure food safety.

**Participants:**

EU Member States, EEA-EFTA countries

**Link:**

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/food/rapidalert/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/food/rapidalert/index_en.htm)

**Legal basis:**

[Regulation \(EC\) N° 178/2002](#) laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety (O.J. N° L 31 of 1 February 2002).

### **3.2.8 Animal Disease notification system (ADNS)**

**Contact:**

DG SANCO, Unit D1 “Animal Health and Standing committees”

**Purpose:**

- To register and document on certain important infectious animal diseases
- To ensure detailed information about outbreaks of these animal diseases in the countries connected to the application
- To enable immediate access to information about contagious animal disease outbreaks
- To ensure that trade in live animals and products of animal origin is not affected unnecessarily

**Link:**

[EUROPA - Animal Health & Welfare - Animal Diseases - Animal Disease Notification System](#)

**Legal basis:**

[Council Directive 82/894](#) (as amended by [Commission Decision 2004/216/EC](#)) on the notification of animal diseases within the Community

### **3.2.9 Phytosanitary network - organisms harmful to plants (EUROPHYT)**

**Contact:**

DG SANCO, Unit F4 “Food of plant origin, plant health: processing and distribution”

**Purpose:**

To exchange official information between the plant health services of the Member States and the Commission

**Participants:**

The Plant Protection Services of the Member States and the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organisation (EPPO - only as a recipient of some of the information included in the notifications of interception.)

**Link:**

<http://europa.eu.int/idabc/en/document/2267/580>

**Legal basis:**

No legal basis

### **3.2.10 Rapid Alert System for Non-Food Products (RAPEX)**

**Contact:**

DG SANCO, Unit B3 “Product and service safety”

**Purpose:**

To provide a rapid exchange of information between Member States and the Commission about measures and actions taken by authorities and/or producers / distributors in relation to consumer products because of a serious risk to the health and safety of consumers.

**Link:**

[EUROPA - Consumer Affairs - RAPEX](#)

**Legal basis:**

[Directive 2001/95/CE](#) on general product safety (GPSD) (2001/95/EC) laying down procedures in matters of product safety

### **3.2.11 Rapid alert system in case of biological and chemical threats (BICHAT)**

#### **Contact:**

DG SANCO, Unit C3 “Health threats”

#### **Purpose <sup>2</sup>:**

- To set up a mechanism for information exchange, consultation and co-ordination for the handling of health -related issues related to attacks
- To create an EU-wide capability for the timely detection and identification of biological and chemical agents that might be used in attacks and for the rapid and reliable determination and diagnosis of relevant cases
- To create a medicines stock and health services database and a stand-by facility for making medicines and health care specialists available in cases of suspected or unfolding attacks
- To draw-up rules and disseminate guidance on facing-up to attacks from the health point of view and co-ordinating the EU response and links with third countries and international organisations

#### **Participants:**

EU Member States, EEA (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway), Bulgaria, Romania

#### **Link:**

[EUROPA - Public Health - Threats to health - Communicable diseases - Bio-terrorism](#)

#### **Legal background:**

- Article 4 of the Decision No 2119/98/ EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 September 1998 setting up a network for the epidemiological surveillance and control of communicable diseases in the Community
- Article 2 of Council Decision of 23 October 2001 establishing a Community mechanism to facilitate reinforced cooperation in civil protection assistance interventions
- Annex 1 of Commission Decision of 22 December 1999 on the early warning and response system for the prevention and control of communicable diseases under Decision No 2119/98/EC of the EP

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<sup>2</sup> COM(2003)320, 2 June 2003, Communication from the Commission, of 2 June 2003, to the Council and the European Parliament on cooperation in the European Union on preparedness and response to Biological and Chemical agent attacks (Health security).



### **3.2.12 European community urgent radiological information exchange (ECURIE)**

**Contact:**

DG TREN, Unit H4 “Radiation protection”

**Purpose:**

To provide an information exchange platform for the participating States in order to inform about the current and foreseeable status of the accident, meteorological conditions, national countermeasures taken, etc

**Participants:**

EU Member States, Switzerland, Bulgaria, Romania

**Link:**

[EUROPA - Energy - Nuclear Issues](#) and [Radioactivity Environmental Monitoring: ECURIE](#)

**Legal basis:**

[Council Decision 87/600/Euratom](#) on Community arrangements for the early notification and exchange of information in the event of a radiological or nuclear emergency.

### **3.2.13 Customs Information System (CIS)**

**Contact:**

DG TAXUD, Unit A3 “Information Technology”

**Purpose:**

To run different IT tools to support all flows of information and control mechanisms necessary for the uniform administration of the Customs Union.

**Link:**

[EUROPA - Taxation and Customs Union / What is Customs 2007?](#)

**Legal basis:**

[Decision 253/2003/EC](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council adopting the Customs 2007 programme (operation, maintenance, development and improvement of electronic information exchange systems between national administrations)

### 3.3 Other EU level actors

#### 3.3.1 Bureaux de Liaison (BdL)

**Contact:**

Via EU Joint Situation Centre (SitCen) of Council Secretariat

**Activities:**

Cooperation network between Member States' Ministries of Interior in the field of internal security

### **3.3.2 Eurojust**

#### **Contact:**

EUROJUST

Maanweg 174, 2516 AB The Hague; The Netherlands

Phone: +31 70 412 5000

Fax: +31 70 412 5505

e-mail: [info@eurojust.europa.eu](mailto:info@eurojust.europa.eu)

#### **Activities:**

Eurojust stimulates and improves the co-ordination of investigations and prosecutions between competent authorities in the Member States. Eurojust improves cooperation between the competent authorities of the Member States, in particular by facilitating the execution of international mutual legal assistance and the implementation of extradition requests. Eurojust supports the competent authorities of the Member States in order to render their investigations and prosecutions more effective when dealing with cross border crime.

#### **Purpose:**

Eurojust is a new European Union body established in 2002 to enhance the effectiveness of the competent authorities within Member States when they are dealing with the investigation and prosecution of serious cross-border and organised crime.

Eurojust is the first permanent network of judicial authorities to be established anywhere in the world. Eurojust hosts meetings, with translation facilities, between investigators and prosecutors from different states dealing with individual cases and at a strategic level and specific types of criminality. Eurojust fulfils a unique role as a new permanent body in the European legal area. Its mission is to enhance the development of Europe-wide cooperation on criminal justice cases.

#### **Participants:**

The College of Eurojust is now composed of 27 National Members, one nominated by each EU Member State.

#### **Link:**

<http://www.eurojust.europa.eu/>

#### **Legal Basis:**

[Council decision of 28 February 2002](#) setting up Eurojust with a view to reinforcing the fight against serious crime (2002/187/JHA)

### **3.3.3 European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)**

#### **Contact:**

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)

171 83 Stockholm; Sweden

Phone: +46 8 300 056

Fax: +46 8 300 057

#### **Activities:**

The Centre would develop epidemiological surveillance at European level. In this work, the Centre could either use its own staff, staff from the dedicated surveillance networks, or, in some instances, it could subcontract tasks to a national centre of excellence. The Centre could also identify and maintain networks of reference laboratories, and enhance the quality assurance schemes of microbiological laboratories.

#### **Purpose:**

To be effective the early warning and response system (EWRS) requires ‘around the clock’ availability of specialists in communicable diseases. Whilst the responsibility for action will remain with Member States and the Commission, technical operation of the EWRS would be undertaken by the Centre and its networks.

#### **Participants:**

All 27 EU Member States, Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway

#### **Link:**

<http://www.ecdc.eu.int/>

#### **Legal Basis:**

Regulation (EC) no 851/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 establishing a European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control

### **3.3.4 European Influenza Surveillance Scheme (EISS)**

#### **Contact:**

EISS co-ordination centre; [NIVEL \(Netherlands Institute for Health Services Research\)](#)

PO Box 1568; 3500 BN Utrecht - The Netherlands

Phone: +31 30 2729 700

Fax: +31 30 2729 729 e-mail: [eiss@nivel.nl](mailto:eiss@nivel.nl)

#### **Activities:**

EISS helps reduce the burden of disease associated with influenza in Europe by collecting and exchanging timely information on influenza activity, contributing to the annual determination of the influenza vaccine content, providing relevant information about influenza to health professionals and the general public and contributing to European influenza pandemic preparedness activities. The aim of EISS is to contribute to a reduction in morbidity and mortality due to influenza in Europe

#### **Purpose:**

- To collect and exchange timely information on influenza activity in Europe;
- To aggregate, interpret and make publicly available clinical and virological data concerning influenza activity in Europe;
- To strengthen, and harmonise where appropriate, epidemiological and virological methods, primarily based on the integrated sentinel surveillance model, for assessing influenza activity in Europe;
- To contribute to the annual determination of the influenza vaccine content;
- To monitor influenza prevention and control policies in Europe, including influenza vaccine uptake;
- To contribute to European planning and response to pandemic influenza through surveillance, investigation and provision of information;
- To promote research in support of the objectives above;
- And to establish and operate a Community Network of National Reference Laboratories for Human Influenza in Europe.

#### **Participants:**

All 27 European Union Member States, Norway, Romania and Switzerland

#### **Link:**

[www.eiss.org](http://www.eiss.org)

### **3.3.5 Europol**

#### **Contact:**

For general enquiries: [info@europol.eu.int](mailto:info@europol.eu.int)

For media enquiries, information requests, visits and events:

[corporate.communications@europol.eu.int](mailto:corporate.communications@europol.eu.int)

Postal address:

Europol  
P.O. Box 908 50  
2509 LW The Hague; The Netherlands  
Phone: +31 70 302 5000  
Fax: +31 70 302 5896

Visiting address:

Raamweg 47  
2596 HN The Hague; The Netherlands

#### **Activities:**

Europol is the European Law Enforcement Organisation which aims at improving the effectiveness and cooperation of the competent authorities in the Member States in preventing and combating terrorism, unlawful drug trafficking and other serious forms of international organised crime.

#### **Participants:**

Members of EU

#### **Link:**

<http://www.europol.eu.int/>

#### **Legal Basis:**

[The Europol Convention](#)

### **3.4 International Organisations**

#### **3.4.1 Eurocontrol**

##### **Contact:**

EUROCONTROL Headquarters

Rue de la Fusée, 96, B-1130 Brussels; Belgium

Phone: +32 2 729 9011

Fax: +32 2 729 9044

##### **Activities:**

EUROCONTROL develops, coordinates and plans for implementation of short-, medium- and long-term pan-European air traffic management strategies and their associated action plans in a collective effort involving national authorities, air navigation service providers, civil and military airspace users, airports, industry, professional organisations and relevant European institutions.

EUROCONTROL's core activities span the entire range of gate-to-gate air navigation service operations - from strategic and tactical flow management to controller training; from regional control of airspace to development of leading-edge, safety-proofed technologies and procedures, and the collection of air navigation charges.

##### **Purpose:**

EUROCONTROL is the European organisation for the safety of air navigation. This civil and military organisation has as its primary objective in the development of a seamless, pan-European Air Traffic Management (ATM) system.

##### **Member States:**

Albania, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Republic of Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom.

##### **Link:**

[http://www.eurocontrol.be/corporate/public/subsite\\_homepage/index.html](http://www.eurocontrol.be/corporate/public/subsite_homepage/index.html)

##### **Legal Basis:**

The EUROCONTROL Convention of 1960, revised in 1997: This Revised Convention will come fully into force when it is ratified by all Member States.

### **3.4.2 International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)**

#### **Contact:**

International Atomic Energy Agency

P.O. Box 100

Wagramer Strasse 5; A-1400 Vienna, Austria

Phone: +43 1 2600-0

Fax: +43 1 2600-7

e-mail: [Official.Mail@iaea.org](mailto:Official.Mail@iaea.org)

#### **Activities:**

The IAEA works for the safe, secure and peaceful uses of nuclear science and technology. Its key roles contribute to international peace and security, and to the World's Millennium Goals for social, economic and environmental development.

Three main pillars - or areas of work - underpin the mission:

1. Promoting safeguards & verification
2. Promoting safety and security
3. Promoting science & technology

#### **Purpose:**

The IAEA is the world's center of cooperation in the nuclear field. It was set up as the world's "Atoms for Peace" organization in 1957 within the United Nations family. The Agency works with its Member States and multiple partners worldwide to promote safe, secure and peaceful nuclear technologies.

#### **Link:**

[www.iaea.org](http://www.iaea.org)

#### **Legal Basis:**

The Statute was approved on 23 October 1956. It came into force on 29 July 1957.

It has been amended three times; [Read full text of the Statute](#)



### **3.4.3 Interpol – Command and Co-ordination Centre**

#### **Contact:**

INTERPOL; General Secretariat; 200, quai Charles de Gaulle; 69006 Lyon; France

#### **Activities:**

The Command and Co-ordination Centre links the Interpol General Secretariat, National Central Bureaus in all 184 member countries and regional offices.

The Command and Co-ordination Centre's activities operate on three basic functions:

- to determine the priority level of each message received by the General Secretariat and to reply to urgent requests on a real-time basis.
- to co-ordinate the exchange of intelligence and information for important operations involving several countries.
- to assume a crisis-management role during serious incidents, such as terrorist attacks, and to co-ordinate specialised assistance.

#### **Purpose:**

The work of the Command and Co-ordination Centre makes full use of a number of services offered by Interpol, including: Instant searches of databases of nominal data; Priority issue of Interpol notices; Fugitive investigative support; Support and co-ordination of disaster victim identification (DVI) efforts.

Another crucial function of the Command and Co-ordination Centre is the co-ordination of the deployment of Incident Response Teams (IRT) to the sites of major disasters or terrorist attacks. Recently IRTs have been sent to Bangladesh and Bali, Indonesia, following terrorist attacks.

There are various other services the Command and Co-ordination Centre provides, including the publishing of Orange Notices, which are used to warn police, public institutions and other international organizations about potential threats posed by disguised weapons, parcel bombs and other dangerous objects or materials.

#### **Participants:**

184 member countries all over the world

#### **Link:**

<http://www.interpol.int/>

#### **Legal Basis:**

[ICPO-Interpol Constitution and General Regulations](#)

### **3.4.4 NATO – Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Centre (EADRCC)**

#### **Contact:**

Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre; NATO Headquarters  
Building V, Office V 119; Boulevard Leopold III; B-1110 Brussels, Belgium

Phone: +32 2 707 2670

Fax: +32 2 707 2677 e-mail: [info.eadrcc@hq.nato.int](mailto:info.eadrcc@hq.nato.int)

#### **Activities:**

The Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre (EADRCC), will, in case of natural or technological disasters, within the EAPC geographical area:

- inform the Secretary General of the NATO and through him the EAPC as well as the Senior Civil Emergency Planning Committee about disasters in EAPC countries and requests for international assistance;
- to coordinate the response to disasters within the EAPC area upon request of the stricken country;
- promote EAPC countries participation in the non-standing EADRU;
- act as an information-sharing tool for EAPC nations on disaster assistance.

All those tasks are performed in close cooperation with the UN-OCHA.

#### **Purpose:**

focal point for coordinating disaster relief efforts of the 46 EAPC nations in case of natural or technological disasters within the EAPC geographical area

#### **Members:**

Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Moldova, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States, Uzbekistan

#### **Link:**

<http://www.nato.int/eadrcc/>

#### **Legal Basis:**

The establishment of the EADRCC was endorsed by EAPC Ministers on 29th May 1998, it was inaugurated on 3rd June 1998

### 3.4.5 Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)

#### Contact:

<u>OPCW Headquarters:</u> Johan de Wittlaan 32; 2517 JR - The Hague; The Netherlands Phone: +31 70 416 3300 Fax: +31 70 306 3535	<u>Assistance and Protection:</u> Phone: +31 70 416 3555 Fax: +31 70 416 3209 e-mail: <a href="mailto:emergassistbr@opcw.org">emergassistbr@opcw.org</a>	<u>International Cooperation</u> Phone: +31 70 416 3218 Fax: +31 70 416 3279 e-mail: <a href="mailto:intcoopbr@opcw.org">intcoopbr@opcw.org</a>
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#### Activities:

Under the terms of the Convention, the OPCW undertakes many activities all over the world, including:

- working to convince those countries in the world that have not yet done so to [join the Convention](#);
- checking and confirming the [destruction](#) of existing chemical weapons;
- monitoring certain activities in the chemical [industry](#) to reduce the risk of commercial chemicals being misused for weapons purposes;
- providing [assistance and protection](#) to member countries if they are attacked or threatened with attack by chemical weapons, including by terrorists; and
- promoting [international cooperation](#) for the peaceful uses of chemistry.

#### Purpose:

The OPCW plays an important role in limiting the methods of war by [getting rid](#) of one of the most horrible weapons and working towards the complete elimination of an entire category of weapons of mass destruction.

The OPCW is an independent international organisation, working in the interests of its Member States. The OPCW cooperates with the United Nations.

#### Participants:

Status of participation in the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 25 March 2006: 178 States, Parties

#### Link:

<http://www.opcw.org/>

#### Legal Basis:

Established in 1997 by the countries that have joined the CWC

### **3.4.6 UN- Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)**

#### **Contact:**

##### **Geneva**

Mr. Kasidis Rochanakorn  
Director, Office for the Coordination of  
Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) - Geneva  
Palais des Nations; 8-14 avenue de la Paix,  
CH-1211 Geneva 10  
Phone: +41 (0) 22 917 1234  
Fax: +41 (0) 22 917 0020  
e-mail: [ochagva@un.org](mailto:ochagva@un.org)

##### **Brussels**

OCHA Liaison Officer in Brussels  
(at present vacant)

**Activities:**

Humanitarian coordination is based on the belief that a coherent approach to emergency response will maximize its benefits and minimize its potential pitfalls - in short, that the whole will be greater than the sum of its parts.

Through approved structures and policies set out by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, OCHA carries out its coordination role by:

- Developing common strategies
- Assessing situations and needs
- Convening coordination forums
- Mobilizing resources
- Addressing common problems
- Administering coordination mechanisms and tools

**Member States:**

193 Member States of the United Nations, including all countries that are members of the European Union.

**OCHA-Country-Offices:**

Angola, Burundi, Chad, Colombia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran, Liberia, occupied Palestinian territory, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Uganda, Zimbabwe

**Link:**

<http://ochaonline.un.org/>

**Legal Basis:**

In particular General Assembly resolutions 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and 57/150 of 16 December 2002

### 3.4.7 World Health Organisation (WHO)

#### **Contact:**

WHO headquarters  
Avenue Appia 20; 1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland  
Phone: + 41 22 791 21 11  
Fax: + 41 22 791 3111  
Telex: 415 416

#### **Purpose:**

WHO's objective, as set out in its Constitution, is the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health. Health is defined in WHO's Constitution as a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.

#### **Member States:**

WHO has 192 Member States, including all UN Member States except Liechtenstein, and 2 non-UN-members, Niue and the Cook Islands. Territories that are not UN Member States may join as Associate Members (with full information but limited participation and voting rights) if approved by an Assembly vote: Puerto Rico and Tokelau are Associate Members. Entities may also be granted observer status - examples include the PLO and the Vatican. Taiwan is campaigning for observer status, against the opposition of China which is already a WHO member and sees Taiwan as part of China.

#### **Link:**

<http://www.who.int/en/>

Reference Document List

- The Hague Programme: Strengthening Freedom, Security and Justice in the European Union (2005/C 53/01)  
Point 2.4 Management of Crisis within the European Union with cross-border effects  
To see document: click [here](#)
- EU emergency and crisis co-ordination arrangements  
15106/05, Limite, CAB 48, JAI 469, PROCIV 194
- Reinforcing the EU's emergency and crisis response capacities  
5228/06, Limite, CAB 1, PESC 21, JAI 12, PROCIV 2
- Interim EU emergency and crisis coordination arrangements in Brussels  
8380/06, Limite, CAB14, JAI 176, PROCIV 64
- Emergency and crisis coordination arrangements in Brussels (CCA)
  - Internal GSC standard operating procedures (SOPs)8888/07, LIMITE, CAB 18

Abbreviations

ADMIN	Administration
ADNS	Animal disease notification system
ARGUS	The general rapid alert system of the commission
AT	Austria
ATM	Air Traffic Management
AU	African Union
BdL	Bureaux de Liaison
BE	Belgium
BG	Bulgaria
BICHAT	Rapid alert system in case of biological and chemical threat
CBRN	Chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear
CCA	Crisis co-ordination arrangements
CCC	Crisis Coordination Committee
Chem	Chemical
CIS	Customs Information System
COREPER	Comité des représentants permanents, Permanent Representatives Committee
CORTESY	Correspondance Européenne Terminal System
CT	Counter Terrorism
CWC	Chemical Weapons Convention
CY	Cyprus
CZ	Czech Republic
DE	Germany
DG	Directorate General
DK	Denmark
DM	Duty Manager
DO	Duty Office(r)
DPKO	Department of Peacekeeping Operations
DS	The Commission's Security Office
EADRCC	Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre
EADRU	Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Unit



EAPC	Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council
EC	European Commission
ECDC	European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control
ECHO	European Community Humanitarian Aid Office
ECURIE	European community urgent radiological information exchange
EE	Estonia
EEA	European Economic Area
EFTA	European Free Trade Association
EISS	European Influenza Surveillance Scheme
EJN	European Judicial Network
EP	European Parliament
EPPO	European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organisation
ERP	European Response Procedures
ES	Spain
ESDP	European Security and Defence Policy
EU	European Union
EUROPHYT	European Phytosanitary network
EWRS	Early Warning and Response System
FI	Finland
FR	France
FYROM	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
GPSD	General Product Safety Directive
GR	Greece
HU	Hungary
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ICMA	Integrated crisis management arrangement
IE	Ireland
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
IS	Iceland
IT	Italy
JHA	Justice and Home Affairs
JLS	Justice, freedom and security

LEN	Law Enforcement Network
LI	Liechtenstein
LT	Lithuania
LU	Luxembourg
LV	Latvia
MIC	Monitoring and Information Centre of Civil Protection
MS	Member State(s)
MT	Malta
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
NL	Netherlands
NO	Norway
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OPCW	Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
OSCE	Organisation on Security and Cooperation in Europe
PermRep	Permanent Representation
PL	Poland
POC	Point of Contact
PT	Portugal
RAPEX	Rapid Alert System for Non-Food Products
RAS	rapid alert systems
RASFF	Rapid alert system for food and feed
RDRA	Regional Disaster Response Advisor
RO	Romania
SANCO	Health and Consumer Affairs
SE	Sweden
SE Asian	South-East Asian
SG/HR	Secretary-General/ High Representative
SI	Slovenia
SitCen	EU Joint Situation Centre
SK	Slovak Republic
SOP	Standing / Standard Operating Procedure

TAXUD	Taxation and Customs Union DG
TEC	Treaty establishing the European Communities
TREN	Transport and Energy
UK	United Kingdom
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WHO	World Health Organisation

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