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NOTE

From : Council
To : European Council
Subject : Presidency Report on ESDP

Delegation will find attached the Presidency Report on ESDP as approved by the Council on 12 June 2006.

PRESIDENCY REPORT ON ESDP

1. In line with the mandate defined by the European Council in December 2005, the Presidency hereby submits this report on ESDP.
2. In presenting this report, the Presidency has noted that Denmark has drawn attention to Protocol No 5 on the position of Denmark, which is annexed to the Amsterdam Treaty.

I. Operational Activities

3. Under the Austrian Presidency operational activity in the field of crisis management has continued to expand, both in the civilian and in the military field. The EU is undertaking a wide range of civilian and military missions, on three continents, with tasks ranging from peacekeeping and monitoring implementation of a peace process to advice and assistance in military, police, border monitoring and rule of law sectors. Further missions are under active preparation.
4. The growing need in the field of civilian crisis management combined with the increase in the EU's ambition level, has led to the EU's decision to increase the CFSP budget significantly.

Western Balkans

5. The EU military operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, **Operation ALTHEA**, continues to guarantee a safe and secure environment in the country. During the last six months, increased focus has been put on the reduction and safe storage of the significant amount of excess weapons and munitions held by the Armed forces of BiH as well as the BiH population. Cooperation with NATO continues to work well in respect of Operation Althea, in Brussels as well as in BiH, in the context of the "Berlin Plus" arrangements. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia was invited to participate in the operation as the 12th contributing third State.
6. The Council reviewed operation ALTHEA in June. This review was carried out within the framework of the Single Comprehensive Review of EU activities in BiH. It confirmed that EUFOR should retain current force levels and tasks; stressed the importance of close cooperation between all EU actors in BiH, especially in the area of fight against organised crime, and highlighted the crucial role of the EUSR in ensuring EU coherence.
7. The **EU Police Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUPM)** has continued from 1 January 2006 as a refocused mission with an adjusted mandate and size. During the first months of the year EUPM has undergone a thorough and successful re-organisation in line with its refocused mandate. The Mission, through the Police Head of Mission, is actively engaged in the concerted efforts of the EU and the International Community on police reform. Under the direction of the EUSR, EUPM has progressed in taking the lead in the co-ordination of policing aspects of ESDP efforts in the fight against organised crime. Furthermore, the EUPM is developing tools to strengthen internal and external control, inspection and accountability of local police across BiH. The Mission is also pursuing other tasks, in particular further support to the build-up of state agencies.

8. To ensure a smooth transition between the end of EUPOL PROXIMA and the start of the European Commission project in the field of police reform, the EU decided to establish a team of EU police advisors to provide further support to the development of an efficient and professional police service based on European standards of policing from 15 December 2005 for a period of 6 months. The **EU Police Advisory Team in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (EUPAT)** has continued monitoring and mentoring of police on priority issues including Border Police, Public Peace and Order and Accountability and the fight against corruption and Organised Crime. Taking into account the scheduled EC project for implementation of police reform, to start on 1 June 2006, EUPAT closed down, as scheduled, on 14 June 2006.

9. Following the reports from SG/HR Solana and Commissioner Rehn and the conclusions of the December 2005 GAERC on the future EU engagement in Kosovo, the Council has increased its activities in preparation for a possible civilian crisis management operation in Kosovo after a status settlement. A joint Council-Commission Fact Finding Mission (FFM) to Kosovo consisting of experts from the Presidency, the Council General Secretariat and the Commission services was undertaken from 19th to 27th February 2006. The FFM provided a detailed assessment of current and future international engagement in the broader field of the Rule of Law, and recommended the setting up of an EU Planning Team tasked to prepare all aspects of the planning for a possible ESDP mission in Kosovo. The Council on 10 April set up the EU Planning Team (EUPT Kosovo). On 2 May the PSC appointed the Head of the Planning Team following a recommendation by the SG/HR based on a selection process involving the Presidency, the incoming Presidency and the Council General Secretariat. The Planning Team is expected to be fully deployed by 1st September 2006.

Eastern Europe and Southern Caucasus

10. The reinforced EUSR Support Team, comprising a Rule of Law follow-up to EUJUST THEMIS and a **Border Support Team (BST)**, continued its activities **in Georgia**. On 28 February 2006, the follow-up to EUJUST THEMIS effectively came to an end. Continuity of EU support to Georgia in the field of Rule of Law is ensured through European Community programmes. The BST has been prolonged with a refocused mandate until the end of February 2007 and is, *inter alia*, continuing to assist the Georgian Border Guard and other relevant government institutions in Tbilisi in preparing a comprehensive reform strategy and to advise the Georgian authorities, at both strategic and operational level.

11. The **EU Border Assistance Mission to Moldova/Ukraine (EU BAM Moldova/Ukraine)**, launched on 30 November 2005 under the Rapid Reaction Mechanism, and staffed to a large extent by seconded experts from EU Member States, has continued to assist the Moldovan and Ukrainian authorities in their efforts against illegal trade, trafficking, smuggling, organised crime and corruption as well as to build up appropriate operational and institutional capacity in Moldova and Ukraine to ensure effective border control and surveillance, thus contributing to the settlement of the Transnistrian conflict. The Head of EUBAM is also carrying out the function of Senior Political Advisor to the EUSR for Moldova. EU BAM Moldova/Ukraine has been extended and expanded by the European Commission on June 1, 2006 as a TACIS project for a period of 18 months. The mandate of the EUSR for Moldova has been prolonged, unchanged, until 28 February 2007, including the Border Team.

Middle East

12. Since July 2005, upon invitation of the Iraqi government, the EU is running an **Integrated Rule of Law Mission for Iraq (EUJUST LEX)** aiming at promoting collaboration between the actors of the Iraqi criminal justice system, through training courses in the EU. More than 600 Iraqi senior officials from the police, the judiciary and the penitentiary have been trained in an integrated fashion in EU Member States. On 15 May 2006, the EU has agreed to extend the mission for a further period of 18 months, as well as to enable internships and specialised courses for Iraqi senior officials, in response to Iraqi needs and requests.
13. The **EU Border Assistance Mission at Rafah (EUBAM Rafah)** continued to fulfil successfully its Third Party presence role at the Rafah Border Crossing Point based on relevant agreements between the Palestinian Authority and the Government of Israel. More than 250.000 passengers have used the Rafah Border Crossing Point since its re-opening with EUBAM Rafah presence on 25 November 2005, thus helping alleviate in part the humanitarian situation of the people living in the Gaza Strip.
14. The **EU Police Mission in the Palestinian Territories (EUPOL COPPS)** was launched on 1 January 2006 with a three-year mandate in order to assist the Palestinian Civilian Police in establishing sustainable and effective policing arrangements. The support is largely based on a Civil Police Development Program developed with active EU support in 2005. The EU is keeping ESDP activities in the Occupied Territories under review to ensure consistency with Quartet policy on assistance to the new Palestinian Authority.

Africa

15. The EU continued to demonstrate its commitment to supporting the transition process in the DRC, through political action, assistance as well as ESDP operations. As the elections in the DRC draw near, the EU in May carried out a comprehensive review of the EU's external action in the DRC.

16. Following a request from the UN on 27 December 2005 to deploy **a military force to the DRC to provide support to MONUC (EUFOR RD Congo)** during the electoral process, the Council on 23 March approved an Option Paper (Crisis Management Concept) and decided to answer positively to the UN request. EUFOR RD Congo will be part of the EU's comprehensive approach in the DRC.
17. The Council started military planning of Operation EUFOR RD Congo and, following the adoption of UNSCR 1671, adopted a Joint Action on 27 April appointing Lieutenant-General Karlheinz Viereck EU Operation Commander and Major General Christian Damay EU Force Commander and identifying the OHQ in Potsdam. The decision to launch the operation has been adopted by the Council and preparations are ongoing in order to reach full operational capability by the date of the first round of the elections, i.e. 30 July 2006.
18. The DRC authorities have been consulted and have indicated they support the deployment of an EU force to support MONUC during the electoral process. This agreement was confirmed in a letter to the United Nations Security Council. Close consultations with the UN have been maintained throughout this process, both with MONUC and with DPKO. Regular technical meetings have been organised with DPKO to inform them on the state of play regarding the planning process. EUFOR RD Congo constitutes a further enhancement of the EU's policy of co-operation with the UN in the field of crisis management.
19. The **EU Police Mission in Kinshasa (EUPOL Kinshasa)** continued with its mentoring and advisory task regarding the Integrated Police Unit (IPU) in accordance with its mandate. In addition, EUPOL Kinshasa participated in the "Groupe Mixte de Réflexion" established by the Congolese Ministry of Interior regarding Police Reform. On 21 April EUPOL Kinshasa was extended until 31 December 2006 and, with a view to supporting the coordination of Congolese crowd control units in Kinshasa during the 2006 DRC elections, temporarily reinforced for a maximum of five months. Furthermore, Angola, Cape Verde, Mali, Morocco, Senegal and South Africa were invited to participate in the temporary reinforcement of the Mission.

20. The mission **EUSEC RD Congo** has been fulfilling its mandate in the field of security sector reform since May 2005. It has contributed to the integration of 12 brigades for the new Congolese army. The short term objective is to complete this process through a third and final sequence involving the remaining combatants from former factions prior to the first round of national elections scheduled on 30 July 2006. EUSEC RD Congo will continue its advisory activities on the reform of the security sector with the newly elected government, in accordance with its mandate. Early 2006 the mission also undertook a technical assistance project on improving the chain of payments of the Ministry of Defence (MoD) in the DRC. This project aims at the modernisation of the MoD administration, thus contributing to the regularisation of the payment of salaries for the military. The Council decided on 25 April to extend the mandate of EUSEC RD Congo until 30 June 2007.

21. The EU has continued its **civilian-military supporting action** to the African Union Mission (AMIS II) **in** the Darfur region of **Sudan**. EU support to AMIS II was reviewed as part of a Single Comprehensive Review of Sudan, which Council noted in May 2006. The EU is providing continuing military assistance in the form of technical, planning and management support throughout the AMIS II command structure. Financial and logistic support has also been provided including the provision of strategic air transport. The EU is also continuing to provide the Vice President of the Cease Fire Commission and a number of EU military observers. EU police officers continue to play a key role in building AMIS II's civilian policing capacity through support, advice and training to the AMIS II police chain of command and police officers on the ground. The EU is also continuing its support for the development of African Union policing capacity and the establishment of a police unit within the AU Secretariat in Addis Ababa.

22. The EU has maintained close and effective co-ordination with institutional and bilateral donors and worked closely and effectively with the UN, as well as with NATO regarding military support in theatre, including through a joint air transport cell in Addis Ababa. The EUSR for Sudan has played a key role in co-ordinating the EU's support to the African Union including with other donors and actors in the region as well as in capitals. The EUSR also provided support to the African Union in its efforts to reach a comprehensive peace agreement for Darfur.
23. In view of the African Union's Peace and Security Committee decision of 15 May 2006 to transfer its mission to the UN and the signing of the Darfur Peace Agreement on 5 May 2006, the EU has decided to continue both the civilian and military elements of the supporting action to AMIS II until 30 September 2006. The EU is considering the appropriate legal and operational framework and the additional resources and capabilities that may be required for this extended EU support action. The EU has stated its readiness to respond swiftly to any requests addressed to it to support the implementation of the peace agreement and to support, as appropriate, the planning for a UN transition.

Asia

24. Having completed its tasks related to monitoring the decommissioning of GAM and the relocation of GOI military forces, the **Aceh Monitoring Mission (AMM)** continued monitoring the reintegration of active GAM members, the human rights situation, the process of legislation change, rules on disputed amnesty cases and deals with complaints and alleged violations of the MoU signed by the Government of Indonesia (GoI) and the Free Aceh Movement (GAM) on 15 August 2005. Pending the adoption of the law of governing Aceh (LOGA) by the Indonesian Parliament, in view of the forthcoming local elections, and following invitations by the Government of Indonesia supported by GAM, the EU extended the Mission in March 2006 for three months until 15 June 2006 and in June 2006 for an additional and final period of three months, until 15 September 2006.

25. AMM is the first ESDP mission in Asia and it is an important step forward for EU-Indonesia relations. The mission is a strong and tangible expression of the EU's commitment to peace and stability in Asia. It adds an important new dimension to the increasingly close EU-ASEAN cooperation. AMM is co-ordinating closely with other EU activities notably European Community programmes providing reintegration assistance for ex-GAM combatants and former detainees as well as communication and information tools on the MoU and the peace process.

II. Capabilities

Development of European Civilian Capabilities

26. Following the adoption of the Civilian Capability Improvement Plan by the Council on 12 December 2005, implementation under the Austrian Presidency of the **Civilian Headline Goal 2008 (CHG 2008)** focused on the following main issues:

- qualitative aspects of the EU civilian capabilities pledged by Member States in 2005;
- enhancement of the involvement in Civilian Crisis Management of sectoral ministries in Member States and the exchange of good practice for raising personnel for civilian crisis management missions;
- development of rapidly deployable civilian capabilities (CRT and IPU/FPU)
- development of Mission Support capabilities for civilian missions.

27. Member States' replies to the CHG 2008 Questionnaire in 2005 provided a comprehensive indication of the availability of mission personnel for civilian ESDP. The Council General Secretariat, assisted by experts from Member States, undertook further qualitative assessment of Member States replies.

28. Work on exploring possibilities of assisting Member States to enhance involvement of sectoral ministries concerned and an exchange at EU level of information and best practices among them was launched on 12-13 January at the International Workshop "The role of the EU in Civilian Crisis Management", in Vienna, supported by the Austrian Presidency, and was continued in a "seminar for EU Member States on Civilian Crisis Management: Operational Models" on 20 March 2006 in London, organised by the FCO.
29. Initial discussions were held on two main issues, aimed at speeding up the launching and deployment of operations and facilitating their operationality once on the ground, and namely (a) possible solutions to finance preparatory actions and (b) launching of tender procedures for framework contracts for faster and simplified procedures to procure essential mission equipment.
30. The implementation of the **Civilian Response Team (CRT)** concept adopted by the PSC in June 2005 continued with the objective of having an initial capacity of 100 experts ready for deployment at the end of 2006. Following nominations of more than 260 experts by Member States, 95 experts were selected across the priority areas and key supporting competencies. On the basis of a concept for CRT induction training, agreed by CIVCOM in January 2006, CRT experts are being trained in the framework of the European Community project on training for civilian aspects of crisis management.
31. As regards **rapid deployment of police elements**, the Police Unit of the Council General Secretariat, together with experts from the Member States, has developed standardized structures of Integrated Police Units (IPU) and Formed Police Units (FPU) designed to carry out the respective tasks that these units are entrusted with, according to the Concept for rapid deployment of police elements. This further implementing step of the Concept will promote a common understanding of those capabilities, and significantly enhance the interoperability between the units deployed by the Member States. In June 2006, CIVCOM delegates attended a training session for IPU/FPU in St. Astier/France organised by the Centre National de Formation de la Gendarmerie.

Development of European Military Capabilities

32. To facilitate the implementation of the **Headline Goal 2010** a *Roadmap to the Progress Catalogue* was developed as an important basis for achieving a far more advanced capability development process. It establishes a common understanding of the process of Scrutinising, Assessing and Evaluating of capabilities, using the Capability Development Mechanism (CDM), and in defining intermediate steps towards the Progress Catalogue in particular.
33. The *Scrutinising Methodology* was developed and the *Scrutinising Handbook* established, enabling Member States to conduct the self assessment and describing the way ahead towards the Force Catalogue via the clarification dialogue. The Scrutinising Handbook represents an important element in elaborating a qualitatively improved, capability based approach in the development of the EU's military capabilities that will be used to establish the Force Catalogue as the next step in the CDM.
34. On the basis of the Requirements Catalogue 2005, Member States made their contributions using the Headline Goal Questionnaire. This new round of bidding was focussed on an improved level of refinement over previous Requirements Catalogues. Thereby the qualitative aspects of Member States' contributions to fulfilling the Headline Goal 2010 will be emphasised in the development of EU military capabilities. Acceding States were integrated in the same bidding process as for Member States. An unclassified questionnaire was also sent to the non-EU European NATO-members and other countries which are candidates for accession to the EU. Their replies will be compiled in respective supplements to the Force Catalogue.
35. The main element in recent achievements towards the Headline Goal 2010 was the establishment of the *Compilation of Member States' Contributions*. This represents an important step in preparing the Force Catalogue to be established in the second half of 2006, which will allow capability gaps to be identified, particularly those in respect of key "enablers" such as strategic airlift. Contributions of Acceding States are presented in a supplement to the *Compilation of Member States' Contributions*.

36. Concerning ongoing work on developing an *Operational Analysis (OA) Tool and Information Gathering (IG) System* for the EU's use, EU requirements for Operational Analysis in support of capability planning were analysed and tools defined to match the needs. A further step includes identifying options for the possible use of Operational Analysis tools and techniques. With regard to Information Gathering, lessons identified while collecting Member States' contributions through the Headline Goal Questionnaire will be taken into account.
37. A milestone in the improvement of the **Strategic Airlift** capabilities was achieved with the formal approval of the *Strategic Airlift Interim Solution (SALIS)* by 15 EU Member States plus Canada and Norway, thereby ensuring timely availability of an additional capability to deploy outsized cargo. It was recognised that SALIS has further growth potential and will also in the future remain open to participation by other EU Member States and NATO nations. SALIS is a good example of the fruitful co-operation in finding effective and efficient solutions to overlapping capability shortfalls of EU and NATO.
38. Another element aimed at improving the European strategic transport capability was the launch of the initiative for *"Improving Strategic Airlift Capability across Europe"* and work done so far. In this context the EDA was invited, as part of ongoing work, to identify potential airlift solutions and co-ordinate requirements between participating Member States, keeping the EUMC informed.
39. Most of the remaining tasks within the framework of the **Global Approach on Deployability** were completed in the first semester of 2006. The remainder of the tasks will be completed in the second half of 2006.
40. With regard to the **maritime dimension in ESDP**, work continued on investigating the contribution of EU maritime forces in ESDP missions/operations and their use in a rapid response capacity.

41. With regard to **Rapid Response**, during the last Battlegroup co-ordination conference, Member States have committed the required number of Battlegroup packages for 2007, 2008 and 2009, with the exception of one gap in 2009. Indications have been given that the first half of 2010 will be completely filled. The Member States providing Battle Groups in the first half of 2007 have decided to provide naval enablers for these Battlegroups. The conceptual work on Battlegroups has continued, in particular the "Health and medical support Annex to the EU Battlegroup" and the Battlegroup Lessons learned methodology have been agreed. Work is ongoing on the "Reserves requirement for the BG Concept". It is ensured that from January 2007 onwards the EU will have the Full Operational Capability to undertake two Battlegroup-sized rapid response operations, including the ability to launch two such operations nearly simultaneously.
42. In line with the "EU Military Rapid Response Concept", consideration is being given to a "Rapid Response Air Initiative" for further development within the framework of the Headline Goal 2010. This initiative aims at enhancing the generation of Air Rapid Response elements and proposes a draft concept for a European Deployable Air Station.
43. The completion of the migration from **European Capability Action Plan (ECAP)** Project Groups to more integrated structures in the framework of the EDA is foreseen by the end of 2006. The majority of Project Groups have migrated.
44. In May the Council noted the **Single Progress Report** on the development of EU military capabilities, drawn up in line with the EU Capability Development Mechanism, including the Capability Improvement Chart, which records progress made in the development of EU military capabilities since November 2005.

European Defence Agency

45. The European Defence Agency continued to make progress across a wide range of activities, with a particular emphasis on Capabilities and Research & Technology in pursuance of the Hampton Court agenda. The report submitted by the Head of the Agency on its activities was noted by the Council on 15 May. Good cooperation between EDA and the European Commission continued. The EUMC and EDA continued to work closely together on the improvement of the EU's defence capabilities as well as on the reinforcement of the EU's systematic and comprehensive capability development process.
46. On Defence Research & Technology, the Agency's Steering Board supported the aim to spend more, spend better and spend more together. A new approach for funding and managing joint investment in R&T is being developed. By the end of June a multi-annual programme on force protection encompassing a number of projects will be defined, enabling Member States who so choose to invest in this collaborative endeavour from the beginning of 2007.
47. For the benefit of a smooth transition of R&T Projects from the former WEAG/WEAO structure to the EDA, the Administrative Arrangement between the Agency and the Kingdom of Norway was concluded.
48. On Capabilities, the Agency has focussed on three top priorities. In the area of Command, Control and Communications important initiatives are maturing, in particular on Software-Defined Radio, in co-operation with the Commission, and on a Theatre Imagery Exploitation System. Noting the improvements achieved through SALIS, the Agency is working on potential solutions to reduce shortfalls in the field of Strategic Lift as well as concerning Air-to-Air Refuelling. The Agency will further investigate new approaches in this regard.

49. Work on the Code of Conduct Regime on Defence Procurement was completed and it will come into operation on 1 July 2006, opening up the European Defence Equipment Market to suppliers across Europe. So far, 22 Member States have joined this voluntary regime, which is expected to create new opportunities for companies across Europe, strengthen our defence technological and industrial base and offer better value for money for defence.
50. The development of an initial Long-term Vision for ESDP capability needs is progressing. It will be available for Member States' consideration in the autumn of 2006.

ESDP and Space

51. Following the finalisation of work covering **generic space system needs** for military operations as well as space system requirements stemming from the Requirements Catalogue 2005, work has started on how best to meet those requirements, including in the context of the development of the European Space Programme (currently under elaboration by the European Commission and the European Space Agency (ESA)).

III. Civil-Military Co-ordination

52. The **Civil-Military Cell** has reached its full strength. It has provided a contribution to the setting up of ESDP civilian and military operations in Aceh, Rafah and the DRC. In addition, it also contributed to work on military support for disaster relief. In order to be operational in the coming months, work on the Operations Centre was focused on manning, infrastructure including communications, training and on the development of procedures and concepts.
53. Building on the work carried out during the previous Presidencies, the Austrian Presidency initiated a **Framework paper of possible solutions for the management of EU crisis management operations**, noted by the PSC as a living document. This Framework paper provides some concrete recommendations and possible solutions for Civil-Military Co-ordination in the field and will serve as an orientation guide for further work.
54. In accordance with the Council Conclusions of 21 November 2005, the Council and Commission have jointly conducted **Single Comprehensive Reviews** on EU Activities in BiH, Sudan, DRC and Aceh.

IV. Security Sector Reform

55. Building on the work carried out under the previous presidency on Security Sector Reform (SSR), the Austrian Presidency held a seminar in Vienna in February 2006, to discuss **SSR in the Western Balkans**. The Seminar and subsequent report were conducted in cooperation with the EU Institute for Security Studies (EU ISS) and the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF). The Council, on 15 May 2006, underlined the importance and the general principles of a comprehensive EU approach to SSR in the Western Balkans and invited the Council General Secretariat and the Commission to elaborate an overview of ongoing EU SSR activities in the regions.

56. In June the Council welcomed the release of the European **Commission Communication** “A Concept for European Community Support for Security Sector Reform”. This Concept complements the Concept for ESDP support to Security Sector Reform, adopted in November 2005. Together the two concepts constitute a policy framework for EU engagement in Security Sector Reform.
57. Building upon the comprehensive strategy underpinning a "Partnership for Security" between the EU and the countries of the Western Balkans, worked out by the Council in December 2005, CIVCOM contributed to the elaboration of the Action Oriented Paper (AOP) on Improving Cooperation on **Organised Crime**, Corruption, Illegal Immigration and Counter-terrorism, between the EU and the Western Balkans countries, referring to the Strategy for the External Dimension of JHA: Global Freedom, Security and Justice, underlining the contribution of civilian ESDP missions in support of the fight against organised crime originating from or linked to the Western Balkans.

V. **Human Rights Issues and Conflict Prevention**

58. In the field of **conflict prevention**, the EU has continued to develop its instruments for long- and short-term prevention. The Presidency Report to the European Council on EU activities in the framework of prevention, including implementation of the EU Programme for the Prevention of Violent Conflicts sets out progress in this field.

59. Following the practice established under previous presidencies, a conference entitled "What future for EU Conflict Prevention? Five years after Göteborg and how to move on" was jointly organised by the Presidency, the European Commission and the European Peace building Liaison Office (EPLO) on 3rd May 2006. This conference brought together practitioners and representatives of Member States, the European Commission, the Council General Secretariat, NGOs, civil society, think tanks and academia as well as Members of the European Parliament to share best practice and develop ideas for future EU capacity building in the field of conflict prevention. The Presidency subsequently informed the European Parliament on the outcome of this conference as well as on current work in the field of civilian crisis management.
60. Work on mainstreaming of **human rights** into CFSP, incl. ESDP, has continued - not least through awareness raising in relevant Council working groups and committees. The chairs of PMG and CIVCOM as well as an advisor to Chairman of the EUMC met with the EU Human Rights Directors working group (COHOM). Relevant human rights issues have been increasingly taken into account and integrated, as appropriate, in all phases of operations, especially during the planning phase. In this respect the experience from crisis management operations with a particular emphasis on human rights, such as the Aceh Monitoring Mission, should be duly taken into account. The SG/HR's personal representative for human rights has contributed to this mainstreaming of human rights aspects into EU crisis management.
61. Work has continued to implement the document on **Implementation of UNSCR 1325** on women, peace and security in the context of ESDP and gender mainstreaming. An exchange of national best practices on gender mainstreaming and the implementation of UNSCR 1325 has taken place which resulted in a call for a check list to be developed to ensure a proper gender perspective through-out the planning process and conduct of ESDP operations. The Institute for Security Studies is conducting a case study on the implementation of the UNSCR 1325 in the context of the EU presence in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

62. Work has continued to address the issue of **children in armed conflict** as a follow up to the EU Guidelines on Children and Armed Conflict. Based on the review of progress made towards the implementation of the guidelines, an implementation strategy was developed. It includes a check list for the integration of the protection of children affected by armed conflict, to be introduced into ESDP missions.
63. Work has begun on considering how the issue of **transitional justice** can be better integrated into EU crisis management, reflecting the importance for sustainable peace and stability in addressing the question of past human rights abuse in transitional and post-conflict situations. In March 2006, the Political and Security Committee held a seminar on transitional justice which explored how strategies to confront past human rights abuses in the context of major political transformations could be integrated into EU crisis management. This seminar is being followed by further work aiming at the development of concrete recommendations on integrating transitional justice into EU planning for ESDP operations.

VI. EU Emergency and Crisis Response

64. On 15 May the Council noted the document "General framework for the use of Member States' military or military chartered transportation assets and ESDP coordination tools in support of EU disaster response" developed in the framework of the SG/HR proposals in the context of the Hampton Court follow-up, and agreed its way ahead. The Council endorsed the respective conclusions on getting assistance quickly where needed. As envisaged by the general framework, the elaboration of detailed procedures and information exchange has already started. While this work evolves, an interim capability is being ensured, elements of which were used in reaction to the earthquake in Indonesia. The Council will continue to follow this issue and assess progress in the course of 2006.

65. Work also started on the SG/HR proposals concerning ESDP tools and military support to EU disaster response, with the elaboration of a draft framework on the identification and coordination of assets and capabilities. This i.a. also relates to the ongoing work on deepening and widening the database of military assets and capabilities relevant to the protection of civilian populations to include natural and man-made disasters. Just as the military or military chartered transportation assets referred to above, the assets and capabilities contained in the database of military assets and capabilities relevant to the protection of civilian populations are made available by Member States on a voluntary basis.

66. Progress in this field is also reflected in the Presidency report to the European Council on 15/16 June on Reinforcing the Union's emergency and crisis response capacities.

VII. EU-Training in ESDP

67. In view of the expanding role and activity of ESDP, proper training is becoming an increasingly important element of ESDP. The Council approved the EU Training Programme in ESDP for the years 2006-2008. Training activities in the field of ESDP of the various European actors and of the Member States have been thoroughly evaluated by the **annual Final Training Report** and steps identified to further improve training activities have been approved by the Council, taking into account the need for a balanced approach between civilian and military training.

68. Furthermore, a **review of the training requirements** in the field of ESDP has been conducted and agreed by the PSC. This review will serve as a basis for the development and design of the training programmes of all relevant training actors in the field of ESDP including the ESDC, CEPOL, EDP, Community Projects and Member States.

69. The **European Security and Defence College (ESDC)** successfully continued its work on establishing a network between national institutes. A first General Annual Report has been adopted by the ESDC Steering Committee describing the progress reached so far and the activities conducted. The first official ESDP High Level Course was concluded in March. Nationals of Candidate States, Third States as well as representatives of International Organisations were for the first time invited to participate in three ESDP Orientation Courses. One of the two courses, which were organised by the Austrian Presidency, was open specifically for Western Balkan States. This is an example that may be followed for other regions. The third course, organised by Lithuania in close cooperation with France, was aimed at Eastern European countries. The aim of this important initiative is to promote a better understanding of ESDP as an essential part of CFSP and to enhance transparency, thus contributing to the development of a shared security culture.
70. Also in the context of the College activities, a seminar with national experts took place in Brussels in February to examine possibilities for establishing an **Internet Based Advanced Distance Learning System**. The results of this seminar were included in the General Annual Report of the ESDC. On 9 June, a **networking conference** organised by the Austrian Presidency took place with the aim of enhancing transparency and cooperation between the national and EU training actors in the field of ESDP.
71. The increase and development of civilian crisis management operations has brought a greater focus to the need for **training of civilian staff for crisis management operations**. The Council General Secretariat, in close co-operation with the Commission, will present before the end of the Austrian Presidency, a paper setting out future training needs for personnel in civilian crisis management operations taking full account of the different instruments used for civilian crisis management activities (civilian ESDP operations, support teams in the framework of offices of EUSR's, community projects, notably under the Rapid Reaction Mechanism).

VIII. Exercises

72. The **EU Evacuation Operation Exercise Study (EVAC 06)**, which was conducted on 5 April, provided a useful opportunity for the Political and Security Committee (with delegations supported by military and consular experts) to consider aspects related to planning and conducting an EU evacuation operation using military means as well as the necessary co-ordination modalities with the consular authorities. As a follow-up, and taking into account other relevant ongoing work, a concept on EU evacuation operations with military means should be elaborated by the Council General Secretariat for consideration by the PSC.
73. The **EU Civilian Instruments Workshop (CIVIL 06)** was the first civilian-only exercise-related activity organised by the EU in the framework of ESDP. It examined ways of enhancing rapid deployment of ESDP civilian capabilities, addressing specifically rapidly deployable Police elements, Civilian response teams (CRTs) and Civilian integrated missions (i.e. missions using 2 or more civilian instruments, e.g. Police and Rule of Law). Speakers with a particular expertise in the rapid deployment of civilian capabilities from Third States and International Organisations also attended the workshop.
74. In the framework of the EU Exercise Programme 2006-2010 the **Crisis Management Exercise 2006 (CME 06)** had been scheduled to be conducted from 25 September to 6 October 2006. The planning and preparation of this exercise, its documentation as well as the development of a new scenario were well on the way and had advanced considerably during the Austrian Presidency. This exercise had to be cancelled due to the real life commitment of the Headquarters involved in the exercise. In order to achieve at least some goals of the cancelled exercise, an exercise study (EST 06) will be held during the Finnish Presidency. It will focus on an accelerated decision making process.
75. The Council approved the European Union Exercise Programme for the years 2007-2011.

IX. ESDP and Africa

76. The **EU Strategy for Africa** has become a document of reference for EU action. A joint implementation matrix has been developed with the African Union that sets out the commitments of the two sides in relation to the Cairo Plan of Action, the AU policy agenda and the EU Strategy for Africa. Furthermore, in the framework of the EU-African dialogue, at the 6th Ministerial Meeting of the African and EU Troikas, Ministers agreed that the EU Strategy shall be transformed into a Joint EU/Africa Strategy ideally to be adopted on the occasion of the 2nd EU/Africa Summit.
77. In terms of concrete implementation of the Strategy commitments **in the area of peace and security**, the EU has recently decided to replenish in the short term the Africa Peace Facility (APF) with EURO 50 million from the 9th EDF responding to AU request to provide increased funding for African Peace Support Operations. The EU also decided to continue the African Peace Facility under the next financial framework, starting with EURO 300 million from 2008 to 2010 from the 10th EDF. African-led missions in the Union of Comoros and in the Central African Republic will also be supported by the EU through the APF.
78. **Co-operation with the AU and the Sub-Regional Organisations** has been intensified in the context of the establishment of the African Stand-by Force where the EU is leading the workshops on doctrine and standard operating procedures (SOP) and funding is being provided by the APF.
79. The EU, through the EUSR for the African Great Lakes Region, also co-chaired a RECAMP (Renforcement des capacités africaines de maintien de la paix) politico-strategic conference in Brazzaville.

X. Co-operation with International Organisations, Mediterranean Partners and Third Countries

EU-NATO

80. The **EU and NATO** have continued to develop further their strategic partnership in crisis management. In Bosnia and Herzegovina their co-operation on operation Althea in the context of the Berlin Plus arrangements has continued to be smooth and efficient. The EU and NATO have moreover continued to co-operate through a joint cell in Addis Ababa to ensure effective support to AMIS in the Darfur.
81. Co-operation and transparency between EU and NATO have been further enhanced through the setting up of a permanent EU cell at SHAPE and a permanent NATO liaison team at the EU Military Staff.
82. In the field of capability development, the EU-NATO Capability Group has continued to exchange information, in accordance with the Capabilities Development Mechanism, discussing inter alia EU Battlegroups and the NATO Response Force as well as some specific capability areas of common interest such as Software Defined Radio and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles. All EU Member States were kept informed about these issues.
83. Work continues aiming to ensure compatibility between the EU HGQ and the NATO DPQ.

EU-UN

84. The EU-UN co-operation in the field of ESDP continued to develop, notably through the preparation of the EU operation in the DRC in support of MONUC. Coordination was also focussed on the transition from AMIS to a UN operation in Sudan/Darfur as well as on ensuring a smooth transition between UNMIK and a possible civilian ESDP mission in Kosovo. Staff-to-staff meetings, supported by the EUMS liaison officer to the UN, proved helpful. Furthermore, representatives of the UN participated in preparation meetings for CME 06 as well as in CIVIL 06.
85. A technical arrangement on modalities for support provided by MONUC to EUPOL KINSHASA was agreed on 23 January 2006. Regarding EUSEC RD Congo, there was an exchange of letters between the Head of Mission and the UN Special Representative on MONUC support to EUSEC personnel deployed in the East. Further discussions remain necessary to expand this support, in particular on access to airlift.
86. Meetings between representatives of both the EU and the UN continued to take place, inter alia through the consultative mechanism known as the EU-UN Steering Committee which took place in New York on 8-9 June 2006.

EU-OSCE

87. In 2006, the EU-OSCE partnership and work co-operation intensified further. Political and expert dialogue was covered by regular meetings at different levels. EU Presidency workshops discussed ways of making civilian crisis management components between EU-OSCE more interoperable, in particular in mission support, recruitment and training.

88. On 15 May 2006 the Brussels EU-OSCE Ministerial Troika bi-annual meeting facilitated a debate on all major issues of crisis management in European conflict zones. The EU submitted to the OSCE a proposal for a Joint Declaration on Enhanced EU-OSCE Co-operation, laying the ground for further and stronger co-operation.

EU-AU

89. Co-operation also intensified with the African Union and the African sub-regional organisations, through EU support both to the AU's AMIS II mission and to longer-term capacity building measures (see section IX).

Mediterranean Partners

90. A Euro-Med meeting on ESDP, co-chaired by the PSC Chair, took place on 31 May. The meeting addressed ways in which dialogue on ESDP and security issues could be pursued with a view to strengthening co-operation, on a voluntary basis in a number of areas. Activities could include inter alia ESDC orientation courses as well as a seminar to be co-organised by the ISS and a partner country.

Third Countries

91. In the framework of the Road Map for the Common Space on External Security, work continued to strengthen the dialogue with **Russia** on matters of practical co-operation in crisis management in order to prepare the ground for joint initiatives. An exchange of letters took place in this context covering concrete proposals to implement the road map. An EU-Russia experts meeting took place on 9 February 2006 in. Also in line with the road map, Russia participated in two ESDP training courses of the ESDC.

92. Negotiations with **Turkey** were successfully concluded on an Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Turkey which will, after its signature and ratification, establish a framework for the participation of the Republic of Turkey in the European Union crisis management operations. Turkey's contribution for the EU military operation in DRC has been accepted.

XI. Field Security

93. A Policy on the security of personnel deployed outside the EU in an operational capacity under Title V of the Treaty on European Union was agreed by the Council. The policy largely codifies and builds on existing practice. It applies to all operational deployments of civilian and military personnel in the field under Title V of the TEU, in particular crisis management operations and EUSRs and their teams. A number of areas were identified in which further work will need to be carried out in the implementation of the policy.

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Upon the initiative of France, the question of possible co-operation concerning the demolition of decommissioned war ships has been raised. Work has been initiated on the development of guidelines for the protection of environmental and health issues in relation to EU military crisis management operations.

XII. Mandate for the Incoming Presidency

On the basis of the present report and taking into account the European Security Strategy, the incoming Presidency, assisted by the Secretary-General/High Representative and in association with the Commission, is invited to continue work on developing the European Security and Defence Policy, and in particular:

- To prepare and ensure the effective implementation of the decisions related to present and future operations and missions, both civilian and military.
- To continue work on civilian capabilities, in particular to meet the shortfalls identified, and on mission support, with a view to the Capabilities Improvement Conference (Civilian Headline Goal 2008).
- To continue work on military capabilities, in particular the finalisation of the Force Catalogue and the preparation of the Progress Catalogue on the basis of the agreed Roadmap (Headline Goal 2010).
- To continue work on rapid response, in particular the EU Battlegroups initiative with a view to the full operational capability from January 2007, and the Civilian Response Teams (CRTs) to ensure an initial CRT capacity by the end of 2006.
- To support the continued development of the European Defence Agency.
- To take forward work on ESDP -aspects related to reinforcing the EU's emergency and crisis response capacities.
- To take forward work on the improvement of civil-military co-ordination in the planning and conduct of operations, including lessons learned and mission support.
- To take forward work on security sector reform (SSR), including through region/country specific approaches, and to develop an EU approach to contribute to disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR).

- To ensure effective implementation of relevant human rights related undertakings in the context of ESDP crisis management activities, including the UNSCR 1612, as well as the UNSCR 1325.
 - To continue the implementation of the European Programme for the Prevention of Violent Conflicts on the basis of the annual presidency report 2006.
 - To continue to develop ESDP support to peace and security in Africa, including the elaboration of policy options for the strengthening of EU support to building African capacity for the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts.
 - To implement the EU exercise programme and the training concept, including further work on training for civilian crisis management taking into account Community instruments.
 - To conduct the review of the ATHENA financing mechanism.
 - To enhance dialogue and exchange of information with NGOs and civil society.
 - To pursue the dialogue and co-operation with the UN and the OSCE, to continue to develop the EU/NATO strategic partnership in crisis management, to develop co-operation with the African Union and African sub-regional organisations, as well as to develop co-operation with partner countries, including the European non-EU NATO members, Canada, Russia, Ukraine and the Mediterranean countries engaged in the Barcelona process.
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