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NOTE

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

Delegations will find at annex the Presidency Report on ESDP as approved by the Council on 15 June 2009.

ESDP Presidency Report June 2009

1. In line with the mandate defined by the European Council in December 2008, 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

South Caucasus and Eastern Europe

EUMM Georgia

1. Building on its timely and effective deployment to Georgia on 1 October 2008, EUMM Georgia has been successful in contributing to greater security and stability in Georgia and in the Southern Caucasus under the terms of the Six Point Plan of 12 August and the Implementation Agreement of 8 September 2008. EUMM's engagement is part of a broader EU and international approach to the region as exemplified by the Geneva process. EUMM's presence on the ground makes armed conflict in Georgia less likely, as acknowledged by both Georgia and Russia. The Mission has since its deployment conducted nearly 3600 patrols, by day and night. Nevertheless, frequent incidents still are a reminder that the situation in the vicinity of the Administrative Boundary Lines (ABL) remains volatile. EUMM has investigated a number of incidents and provided neutral and unbiased assessment - not only towards authorities but also vis-à-vis the wider public and media.

2. Since its deployment, EUMM has made decisive progress in all four tasks of its mandate: stabilisation, normalisation, confidence building and informing EU policy. A majority of the IDPs from the August conflict could return to their homes and villages. EUMM has initiated confidence building measures which aim at undercutting the link between incidents and conflict, in particular the conclusion of Memoranda of Understanding with the Georgian Ministries of Defence and Interior and in the establishment of an Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism (IPRM). Nevertheless, under present circumstances, further progress towards the fulfilment of the mission's mandate will remain important for the normalisation of the situation and for the stability of the region.

Border Support Team

3. The Border Support Team in Georgia has continued its activities within the office of the EUSR for the South Caucasus. The team has carried on assisting the implementation of the border management strategy focusing on the inter-agency cooperation within Georgia.

EUBAM Moldova-Ukraine

4. The EU Border Assistance Mission to the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM Moldova-Ukraine, which is a European Commission activity staffed to a large extent by seconded experts from EU Member States, has continued its activities. EUBAM Moldova-Ukraine assists the governments of the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine in areas involving border, customs and fiscal matters, including through monitoring activities.

Western Balkans

Operation ALTHEA

5. Following the successful reconfiguration of Operation ALTHEA in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) in 2007 the European Union force (EUFOR) numbers some 2 200 troops on the ground, backed up by over-the-horizon reserves. Within its overall mandate, its operational priorities remain the maintenance of the secure and safe environment, the transfer of the remaining Joint Military Affairs task to the relevant national authorities, supporting and monitoring implementation by the BiH authorities of those Joint Military Affairs tasks already transferred, and support for the armed forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina as regards training.
6. On 18 May 2009 the Council assessed operation ALTHEA and approved the recommendations made in the Secretary-General/High Representative's six-monthly report on the operation. The Council noted that, despite the challenging political environment, the security situation in Bosnia-and-Herzegovina (BiH) remained stable. The Council welcomed the positive contribution of the force to the safe and secure environment in BiH, and added that the EU-led force (EUFOR) continued to provide reassurance and remained ready to respond to possible security challenges throughout the country.
7. The Council approved, for planning purposes, the Concept, and the Provisional Statement of Requirements, for a possible evolution of Operation ALTHEA towards a non-executive capacity-building and training operation, in the light of advice and conclusions of relevant Council bodies. The Council reconfirmed that it would keep this planning work under regular review so that a decision on the future of the operation could be taken once the necessary conditions had been met. The Council reiterated that approval of the Concept does not prejudge a political decision on the possible evolution of Operation ALTHEA which would need to take political developments, including the future role of the EUSR, into account.

EUPM BiH

8. The EU Police Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUPM) has continued to promote and support the reform of the BiH police services. The Mission has continued to monitor the implementation of the two police reform laws adopted in 2008. It has continued its action on concrete capacity building at State level and country-wide harmonization of all laws pertaining to law enforcement agencies and police officials.
9. With the assistance of EUPM, the State Investigation and Protection Agency (SIPA) has made progress in implementing sustainable policing arrangements for the targeting of organised crime networks and bringing to justice key figures allegedly involved in serious criminal offence. EUPM has also supported the emergence of a track-record of achievements in the fight against organised crime, in particular by assisting with the in-depth analysis of crimes, using advanced investigative techniques and intelligence.
10. EUPM has further developed effective mechanisms for coordination between the law-enforcement agencies and the judiciary, particularly as regards relations between police and prosecutors.

EULEX Kosovo

11. The EULEX KOSOVO Mission as set out in the Joint Action adopted by the Council of the European Union of 4 February 2008, has reached full operational capability on 6 April 2009. With approximately 1700 international personnel deployed across Kosovo, the mission has been able to take forward its activities to a larger extent.
12. In accordance with its programmatic approach, EULEX KOSOVO has conducted monitoring, mentoring and advising activities aimed at improving the performance of the competent Kosovo institutions, judicial authorities and law-enforcement agencies.

13. The Mission has, in parallel, retained certain executive responsibilities as per its mandate. The Mission has in particular reviewed the backlog of sensitive investigations pertaining to war crimes, terrorism, organised crime, corruption, inter-ethnic crimes, financial/economic crimes and other serious crimes. Prosecution and adjudication over these cases have also ensued allowing EULEX Judges and Prosecutors to conduct their first trials and issue their first rulings, including in the Mitrovica Court. Adjudication of civilian/property cases have also started to take place. EULEX KOSOVO has also provided an effective security response as second security responder in support of Kosovo police services in case of challenges to law and order. EULEX Kosovo has ensured a 24/7 presence at the Gates in Northern Kosovo leading to a significant decrease in smuggling of goods. The purpose of the presence is to register trade in order to increase the collection of revenues.

Asia

EUPOL Afghanistan

14. The EU Police Mission in Afghanistan (EUPOL Afghanistan) has made substantial progress in the implementation of its mandate, at tactical, operational and strategic levels over the last six months.
15. The Mission is deployed in Kabul and in 16 provinces of Afghanistan, accommodated in Provincial Reconstruction Teams and Regional Commands. Preparations for deployment to two Eastern provinces are ongoing.

16. The Mission has been in the lead in some of the key aspects of police reform, like the anti-corruption strategy for the Ministry of Interior, in intelligence-led policing and criminal investigations. The Mission has also increased its work on the linkages with the broader Rule of Law sector, in particular in the areas of cooperation between police and the prosecutor's office, in assisting in drafting key legislation and mentoring of key interlocutors in both the Attorney General's Office and Supreme Court. EUPOL has also taken a very active part in the international efforts to strengthen Kabul City Police and Kabul City security. The Mission has also continued to work on the general aspects of police reform, on border police (in particular at the international airports), as well as on gender and human rights.
17. A large Train the Trainers programme has been launched, which includes training of the Afghan police on its role and performance during the upcoming elections. The purpose, through a multiplier effect, is to train 35 000 police officers by the 2010 parliamentary elections. Additional training activities have also been conducted throughout Afghanistan, in the Mission's main areas of focus. In carrying out these activities, specific attention has been given to reinforcing the coherence of actions between Kabul and the PRTs.
18. The Mission has continued to strengthen effective coordination with other EU actors, European Commission, EUSR, as well as with international partners, in particular UNAMA and the US, within the framework of a restructured International Police Coordination Board.
19. The decision to progressively double the number of Mission personnel is being implemented.

Middle East

EUJUST LEX

20. The EU is confirming and enhancing its engagement to reinforce the rule of law in Iraq and to promote human rights. In this line, the EU has decided to extend the Integrated Rule of Law Mission for Iraq (EUJUST LEX) from July 2009 to June 2010, including a pilot phase with in-country activities from July 2009 onwards.

21. The Mission has facilitated training interventions provided by the Member States for senior police officers, prosecutors, judges and prison governors. So far, more than 2100 Iraqis have participated in EUJUST LEX courses. Also during the extension period, these courses will continue.
22. In addition, the Mission began to conduct preliminary activities in the area of the rule of law on Iraqi territory in May 2009, progressively and on an experimental basis, where security conditions permit.
23. In-country activities will include training, strategic advice and mentoring. The areas have been identified also on the basis of an evaluation of the needs of the justice and the rule of law sector in Iraq.

EUPOL COPPS

24. The EU Police Mission in the Palestinian Territories (EUPOL COPPS) has continued its action to assist the Palestinian Civilian Police in establishing lasting and effective policing arrangements.
25. The Mission has, since July 2008, set up its Rule of Law section to assist the Palestinian criminal justice system. A total of 17 judicial experts have been deployed to the Mission in September 2008. Following the renewal of the Mission's mandate for two additional years in December 2008, and the arrival of a new Head of Mission in January 2009, the Mission has produced a comprehensive Assessment of the PA criminal justice system.
26. Based on these findings, the Mission has, together with local and international counterparts, developed an Action Plan for the criminal justice that will include proposed actions in support of the penitentiary, courts, General Prosecutor's Office, the High Judicial Council and the Ministry of Justice. The Action Plan will enter implementation during the summer 2009.

27. The Council agreed to take work forward on addressing further action in the broader rule of law in the Palestinian Territories. EUPOL COPPS activities in this area will enhance synergies with Community action in this field.

EUBAM Rafah

28. The EU Border Assistance Mission for the Rafah Crossing Point (EUBAM Rafah) suspended its operations after the closure of the Rafah Crossing Point at the time of the takeover of Gaza by Hamas in June 2007 while maintaining its operational capability to redeploy at short notice.
29. The Council confirmed the EU's readiness to redeploy at the Rafah Crossing Point, as soon as political conditions allow. The Council underlined that since the closure of the Rafah Crossing Point the mission has maintained its operational capability. The Council reiterated its commitment to EUBAM Rafah, to the Agreements concluded and to the region, in particular the population of Gaza. It underlined the importance of the implementation of the Agreement on Movement and Access by all parties.

Africa

Operation ATALANTA-EU NAVFOR

30. During the last six months, Operation ATALANTA has demonstrated its ability to act effectively against piracy. All World Food Programme and African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) shipments protected by EUNAVFOR warships have arrived safely. Operation ATALANTA has also contributed to the protection of other vulnerable vessels sailing in the Gulf of Aden and off the Somali coast.

31. Coordination with the maritime community has been instrumental in promoting widely self-protection measures and best management practice to deter piracy. The development of the ATALANTA's Maritime Security Centre - Horn of Africa inside the EU OHQ has provided an innovative and powerful interface to liaise and communicate with the international merchant community. Besides, the EU has established 10 cooperative frameworks and arrangements which enable Operation ATALANTA to cooperate effectively with other naval forces and assets deployed in the region. This comprehensive approach has contributed to a significant disruption of attacks in the Gulf of Aden. An increasing number of suspected pirates have been captured by ATALANTA. Operation ATALANTA has also enjoyed broad media coverage.
32. However, in spring 2009, piracy acts have occurred further south in the Somali Basin. In May the Council expressed its concern at the surge of piracy acts occurring at distances increasingly remote from the coastlines of East Africa, requiring an expansion of the initial area of operation; which makes it necessary to meet the growing need for maritime surveillance. It demonstrated the need to keep adjusting the EU response to piracy activity and the importance of maintaining a high degree of cooperation with other actors.
33. In this regard, the EU has participated actively in the work of the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia and in its working groups. The main efforts have related to the improvement of military and operational exchange of information and to the legal aspects of counter-piracy operations.

34. As concerns the judicial treatment of suspected pirates captured by EUNAVFOR warships, the Transfer Agreement concluded in the form of the exchange of letters between the EU and Kenya on 6 March 2009 represents a breakthrough as it ensures the necessary continuum between military action and subsequent prosecution. Efforts are being pursued also to conclude arrangements with Tanzania and Seychelles. The European Commission adopted a decision on a 1.75 million EUR assistance programme, under the Instrument for Stability, with the aim to provide targeted support to the trial and related treatment of piracy suspects in Kenya. Following contract signature on 15th May between EC and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the latter started immediately implementing the jointly developed programme, which will last over a period of up to 18 months.
35. Atalanta's contribution to countering piracy has been evidenced by its achievements over the last 6 months. However, piracy is likely to remain a serious threat beyond ATALANTA's current end date. As commonly acknowledged, it is only ashore that root causes of piracy can be addressed. The pledges made at the Brussels Conference on Somali Security on 23 April 2009 constitute a promising step towards the establishment of the efficient Somali National Security Force and the civilian Somali Police Force. Measures and options are being studied and developed on further possible contributions to the security sector in Somalia by relevant EU actors.

Operation EUFOR Tchad/RCA

36. Following the successful transfer of authority between EUFOR Tchad/RCA and MINURCAT on 15 March 2009, the Council welcomed the fulfilment of EUFOR's mandate and underlined the exemplary cooperation between the European Union and the United Nations during the conduct phase of operation. It stressed that this cooperation could serve as a basis for future collaboration.

37. Throughout its mandate, EUFOR made a tangible contribution towards facilitating the activities of humanitarian workers, protecting civilians in danger, in particular refugees and displaced persons affected by the neighbouring crisis in Darfur, and protecting the staff of the United Nations.
38. The operation was underpinned by an active, coordinated and coherent military information campaign, targeted at all stakeholders. It aimed in particular to reassuring the actors in theatre that there would be a smooth transition to a UN follow-on operation with no security vacuum.
39. EUFOR's redeployment did not mark the end of the European Union's involvement in Chad, the Central African Republic or the region as a whole. Around 2 000 troops from European countries who served under EUFOR are currently under the MINURCAT banner, which further underlines European support to UN peacekeeping operations. Moreover, the European Union has remained active at a political and diplomatic level in Chad, the Central African Republic and especially Sudan. The European Union also continues to be active in the region in the field of humanitarian and development activities as a strategic donor.

EUSEC RD Congo

40. Restoration of governance in general and defence reform in particular have remained central factors in creating conditions for lasting stability in DRC. EUSEC RD Congo has continued its work in providing advice and assistance for security sector reform, in close coordination with other relevant actors, with the aim of contributing to the Congolese efforts to restructure and reform the Congolese army, including via a number of practical activities. EUSEC RD Congo has also continued to provide support to the EUSR for the African Great Lakes Region.

41. As regards the modernisation of the military administration, on 29 December 2008 EUSEC RDC completed the Census of the FARDC. By this date, approximately 130 000 military personnel had been indentified. The results of the census were presented to the Congolese authorities in January 2009. The chain of payments project has now been extended to all army personnel at the request of the Congolese authorities.
42. To complement in a coherent manner its primary advisory role in the reform of the army, EUSEC implemented or supervised projects in areas such as gender, human rights, health and infrastructure, financed or initiated by Member States and/or the EC. On 18 May the Council underlined that these projects currently play a determining role in increasing the visibility and the credibility of actions undertaken at the strategic level.
43. EUSEC will continue to assist in the organisation of the FARDC administration. Supporting with specific EUSEC expertise the accelerated integration of the CNDP and other armed groups into the FARDC remains a short-term priority.
44. The EUSEC mandate expires on 30 June 2009. A no-additional-cost extension of the mission's mandate for 3 months, until 30 September 2009, has been agreed in principle, and work on a revised general concept for the mission has started.

EUPOL RD Congo

45. EUPOL RD Congo continues to support the efforts to reform the Congolese National Police (CNP), in particular through the Police Reform Monitoring Committee (*Comité de suivi pour la réforme de la police*, CSRP). The Mission also continues to facilitate links between the police and the various stages of the judicial system with the help of its justice interface. EUPOL RD Congo is also involved in more operational activities such as supporting the creation and development of the *Police de Recherche et d'Intervention* (PRI), the development of a Command and Control Centre for the PNC or supporting the *Inspection Générale d'Audit* (IGA). Moreover, EUPOL and EUSEC work in close cooperation to assist the overall Security Sector Reform efforts in the DR Congo.
46. The Mission has established a presence in the east of the country (Goma and Bukavu) and is closely following the way in which the security situation in the region is developing. In order to fulfil its objectives, the mission's mandate is to be extended for an additional 12-month period until 30 June 2010, and will be equipped with a Project Cell to deliver small actions in support of its mandate.

EUSSR Guinea Bissau

47. The EU SSR Guinea-Bissau Mission provides local authorities with advice and assistance on SSR with respect to military, police and justice in order to contribute to creating the conditions for implementation of the National SSR Strategy. The mission cooperates closely with other EU, international and bilateral actors with a view to facilitating subsequent donor engagement.

48. The EU SSR GUINEA-BISSAU Mission was launched on 16 June 2008 for an initial period of twelve months and subsequently extended for six months, i.e. until November 2009. The rationale of the extension is to fully accomplish the mission's mandate, to further explore the capacity and the commitment of the new government to carry forward the reform process and to assess the willingness of the International Community to support it.

II. LESSONS LEARNED

49. The Council looked forward to full implementation of the guidelines on identifying and implementing lessons and best practices in civilian ESDP missions, adopted in November 2008. In particular, it underscored the need to take forward the work on implementing lessons agreed to date and to produce new thematic reports on lessons.

50. In the first semester of 2009, lessons were identified on the planning phase for EUMM Georgia, focusing on rapid deployment, and EU SSR Guinea-Bissau and recommendations for future planning were noted.

III. CAPABILITIES

(a) Civilian Capabilities

Civilian Headline Goal 2010

51. In January 2009, the PSC approved a Civilian Capability Improvement Plan, in accordance with the Civilian Headline Goal (CHG) 2010 and in line with the Declaration on strengthening capabilities adopted by the Council and endorsed by the European Council in December 2008.

52. In accordance with this Improvement Plan, implementation of the CHG 2010 in the first semester of 2009 focused on the following main issues:
- a) Development of the Goalkeeper software environment (Civilian Capability Management Tool);
 - b) Reflection on national strategies facilitating the deployment of civilian personnel for ESDP.
- a) Development of the Goalkeeper software environment

The Secretariat continued the development and implementation of a software environment called Goalkeeper. A road map for the Goalkeeper development was established by the Secretariat. Two Goalkeeper applications were released on-line, dealing with training and conceptual development. Goalkeeper will ultimately be a user friendly tool, consisting of the following applications: generation of job descriptions for mission personnel, the keeping of national rosters of potentially available personnel, training and conceptual development and possibly the generic forward planning of equipment and services for civilian ESDP missions. Goalkeeper should improve and streamline the work in the above areas and also help to foster the establishment and implementation of national strategies to facilitate the deployment of mission personnel, and encourage the exchange of best practices.

b) Reflection on national strategies

In light of the increasing numbers of ESDP missions, Member States face the need to establish structures in order to identify and deliver the necessary resources effectively and efficiently. The challenge therefore is to ensure that Member States have policies and structures in place that allow them to generate the necessary capabilities across the different Ministries and Services involved, and to sustain such efforts over time. Some Member States have already begun to proceed in this direction by establishing national strategies or action plans or by taking other measures.

A seminar on national strategies facilitating the deployment of civilian personnel for ESDP took place in June 2009. This seminar convened high-level representatives of Member States from key Ministries involved in Civilian Crisis Management to study facilitating measures in different areas, and proposed a roadmap aimed at the implementation of such measures.

53. A joint Presidency/Secretariat document "Operational aspects of Civilian ESDP capabilities - follow up to Gymnich in Hluboka" was discussed by PSC on 13 May 2009. The document presented an inventory of some key operational aspects of civilian ESDP apart of issues tackled at technical level in the traffic lights document and suggested ways to better match political ambition with ESDP action and civilian crisis management resources. A tight time-schedule was set up to come up with practical solutions.
54. Substantial progress has been recently made in the field of force generation, notably in human and financial resources and provision of equipment. Improved procedures have been put in place as far as selection of staff, calls for contribution and standardized job descriptions are concerned.

55. Two calls for deployment were made for a total of 12 Civilian Response Teams (CRTs) experts as temporary reinforcements to EUBAM Rafah. An availability inventory for the CRT pool of experts is underway. A secure website was presented in early 2009. This website will be made available to ongoing ESDP missions, members of ESDP fact-finding and planning teams, as well as Member States' experts responsible for civilian ESDP and includes a CRT Handbook which draws on EU crisis management procedures and other documents that provide the basis for planning and conducting ESDP missions in general.

(b) Military Capabilities (including capability projects developed in the European Defence Agency)

56. Progress was made by Member States in the development of military capabilities following the decision of EU Member States Defence Ministers in November 2008 to launch, in varying configurations, a number of specific operational initiatives, and the Declaration on Strengthening Capabilities adopted by the European Council in December 2008. A Presidency Report on Progress in Military Capabilities reviewing the progress on capabilities development since Defence Ministers' Military Capabilities Commitments of November 2008 was noted by the GAERC in May.

57. In May, the Council noted the Force Catalogue 2009, which reflected revised contributions from nine Member States. The EUMS is conducting an analysis of these contributions in accordance with the Capability Development Mechanism in order to identify whether the changes in the MS contributions to the EU Force Catalogue have significantly impacted on the identified military shortfalls in the HLG 2010 process. This analysis is to be finalised by summer 2009.

58. As a follow-on of the initial Capability Development Plan (CDP), agreed in July 2008, work on the first group of twelve selected CDP actions has started. The European Defence Agency (EDA) and the EU Military Committee (EUMC) agreed to divide the lead for these twelve actions between them. These actions were addressed by them either through EDA's Integrated Development Teams and Project Teams or through dedicated workshops with Member States. These workshops aimed at reaching a common understanding of the scope of these actions and identifying the relevant military requirements. This contributes to the implementation of the Methodology for Measuring Progress and Reviewing Priorities.
59. Following the Report on Lessons Identified from Headline Goal 2010, work to improve the EU military capability development process has been conducted. In this regard, the First Lessons Learned Report on the HG 2010 Process has been discussed with a view to being finalised in June 2009.
60. As foreseen in the Framework for EU military conceptual documents, the EUMC has conducted a review of a number of military concepts such as the Special Operations and the Military Rapid Response concepts.
61. An EUMC's Interoperability Study is being conducted, with its final report planned for November 2009. Workshops were held in early 2009 with subject matter experts from Member States and relevant organisations and bodies such as NATO, the Multinational Interoperability Council and FINABEL. This work is being conducted in connection with the Lessons Identified from the Headline Goal 2010.
62. The implementation of the EU Operations Wide Area Network (EU OPSWAN) has been progressing satisfactorily. Initial accreditation and operational services for SECRET EU were provided to the EUMS and the OHQs in France, Italy, Germany, United Kingdom and Greece. The FHQs in Sweden and Germany are being accredited to OPSWAN. The FHQ in Italy is to be connected next year. Work also proceeded on other improvements to the secure exchange of information.

Rapid Response

63. The revised Military Rapid Response Concept was agreed by the EUMC in January 2009 and noted by the PSC in April. It newly defined the military rapid response time as a period from 5 to 30 days from the approval of the Crisis Management Concept to the moment when operations commence in the Joint Operations Area. With a view to ensuring the overall coherence with all concepts related to rapid response, the EUMC has launched work to update the Air and Maritime Rapid Response concepts and to examine the possible need for a Land Rapid Response concept. Maritime and Air Rapid Response workshops and Information Conferences were held in March and April.
64. A Battlegroup Coordination Conference was held in April, at which Member States' offers were able to fill the stand-by periods up to 2011. Member States were encouraged to fill the vacant slots from 2012 onwards.

Organisation Development

65. The final report on post-Wiesbaden measures was agreed by the EUMC in April. This report underlines that these measures have generated significant improvements in particular in the EU's ability to undertake early military planning in support of informed decision-making.

(c) European Defence Agency (EDA)

66. EDA has intensified work on the practical implementation of its strategic framework completed at the end of last year:

- Capability Development Plan (CDP): Nine out of the first tranche of twelve CDP priority actions have been taken forward by the Agency. For most of the nine actions, related Strategic Context Cases for collaborative projects within the EU have been developed.
- European Defence Research and Technology (R&T) Strategy: Work has continued on identifying cross-links between common R&T priorities and CDP priorities, with a view to defining key technologies directly linked with CDP needs. Integrated roadmaps for transversal collaborative projects have been developed for four areas (with Maritime Mine Counter Measures, CBRN, Counter Man-portable Air-defence Systems (MANPADS) and Counter Improvised Explosive Devices). The implementation of the two Defence R&T Joint Investment Programmes on Force Protection and on ICET (Innovative Concept and Emerging Technologies) has been providing useful experience.
- European Defence Technological and Industrial Base (EDTIB): (i) work on identifying key industrial capabilities to be preserved or developed in Europe has been launched in the area of Future Air Systems, considering the European supply chain as a whole and not just focusing on Europe's major aerospace companies; (ii) the implementation of the Code of Conduct on Defence Procurement through the Electronic Bulletin Board on "Government Contracts" was considered on the whole positive, with an increase in cross-border awarded contracts; (iii) all subscribers to the Defence Procurement Regime will apply the Code of Conduct on Offsets adopted last October (25 participating Member States plus Norway) from 1 July this year - and the Reporting and Monitoring System for the Code was approved.
- European Armaments Cooperation Strategy: A roadmap describing the application of the Guide to conduct programme preparation, education, best practice and standardisation was approved.

67. The Agency continued to generate collaborative initiatives aimed at addressing the key EU shortfalls – including in the CDP priority areas:
- Momentum has been maintained on improving helicopters' availability. Concerning the short-term activity (training), EDA has been preparing for the launch - in 2010 - of the European Programme for Helicopter Tactics Training. Its content will be shaped by the outcome of the two EDA studies (addressing urgent operational training for crews in pre-deployment, and landscaping the needs and capabilities available in Europe) and the EDA-supported multinational exercise. As for the medium term, a menu for upgrading existing helicopters has been developed, with initial focus on Mi-Helicopters. For the longer term - beyond 2020 - the ad hoc project on the “Future Transport Helicopter”, based on a Franco-German initiative, has been established within the Agency’s remit.
 - Work on developing a European Air Transport Fleet (EATF) has progressed. The initiative was widened from an initially envisaged fleet into a framework for military air transport-related aspects with modular participation. The skeleton of the Letter of Intent was developed with a view to the signature of the latter next November.
 - The European Third Party Logistics Support (TPLS) Platform was established, for a nine-month trial phase, with the aim of providing a solution for improving awareness on existing options for contracting services in support of Crisis Management Operations.
 - The MUSIS (Multinational Space-based Imaging System) ad hoc project related to the second generation of military earth observation satellites was established under the Agency’s remit.
 - A new EDA Project Team was established to address military requirements for Space Situational Awareness (SSA) in order to deliver a Common Staff Target (CST) no later than mid-2010.

- Work has developed towards the establishment of a European Satellite Communication Procurement Cell, in the dedicated Ad-Hoc Project Group.
 - Work has continued on the definition of military Maritime Surveillance requirements, with focus on Networking. Furthermore, the Agency has started to prepare, in close consultation with, notably, the European Commission, the nomination of a “Wise Pen” for producing a “Maritime Surveillance ESDP think piece” in order to contribute to an EU integrated approach.
 - In order to address the European shortfall in biological detection, identification and monitoring, a new project (Biological Equipment Development and Enhancement Programme – Bio EDEP) was established in EDA, with the aim of providing the forces of those Member States participating in this project with robust and reliable integrated biological detection, identification and monitoring capabilities by 2015.
68. The Agency was tasked to prepare, working together with the European Commission, a framework for maximising complementarity and synergy between defence and civilian security-related research activities, and the content of a coordinated programme (e.g. in the situational awareness domain).
69. EDA has intensified its working relationships with the Commission and other relevant bodies, including OCCAR (Organisation conjointe de coopération en matière d'armement), the European Space Agency and NATO, in accordance with the Joint Action establishing EDA and in consultation with the participating Member States.

70. In particular, on the basis of a Steering Board Directive to the Head of the Agency (with agreed principles), EDA initiated the negotiations of an Administrative Arrangement (AA) with OCCAR, with a view to submitting the draft for the Council's approval next November. The Council endorsed the Steering Board recommendation to take forward work on the establishment of a Security Agreement between the EU and OCCAR, with the objective of it being available in time for the approval of the draft AA between the Agency and OCCAR.
71. EDA was collaborating with the Council General Secretariat on the identification of Information Exchange Requirements (IERs).
72. The Presidency organised two conferences on topics related to the EDA: first of them entitled "Increased Role of SMEs in the European Defence and Security Supply Chains" was held in Olomouc on 27 - 28 May 2009, the second one on "European Education and Training in Armaments Cooperation - The Way Ahead" was conducted on 15 - 16 June in Prague. A Czech Presidency seminar organised in cooperation with EDA took place in Olomouc on 4 -5 June 2009 and its topic was "Harmonisation of Military Airworthiness".

IV. EU SATELLITE CENTRE

73. The EU Satellite Centre has continued to provide analytical products based on satellite imagery and related services in support of the ESDP and European Union operations and missions.
74. In particular, in support of EUFOR Tchad/RCA, successful cooperation has continued between the EU Operational Headquarters in Mont Valérien and the EUSC. This cooperation has been facilitated by an ad hoc arrangement on access to Helios satellites images, with the aim of providing geospatial analytical products based on Helios satellite images to the OHQ and EU Force Commander.

75. The Satellite Centre has also prepared products and analyses to the EU Operational Headquarters in Northwood for the EU NAVFOR ATALANTA operation and for several other ESDP-related tasks and missions, notably the EU Monitoring Mission in Georgia.
76. Close cooperation with the UN has continued, particularly in connection with the United Nations Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC).
77. The EUSC has continued to take an active role in the framework of the European initiative of Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES), including through participation in security-related projects within GMES.
78. A joint pilot cooperation project regarding the 2010 South Africa World Cup is being scoped for implementation between the EUSC and the US National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA).
79. After the visit to the Esrange Swedish Space Corporation Research Centre in Kiruna, the EUSC board envisaged that a subsequent further cooperation could be explored.

V. EU INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY STUDIES

80. The EU ISS continued its work with regard to research, debate and analysis on security issues. The following parts of its work were related to the ESDP:
 - a seminar on 4 February in Brussels on the role of CFSP in relation to cyber security; on 27 and 28 April a conference was held in Bucharest on current developments in post-conflict stabilisation and reconstruction, a policy planners seminar on CFSP/ESDP in the Eastern neighbourhood and the Balkans was subsequently held on 27 and 28 May in Brussels.In addition, two Working Groups on the Future of Disarmament were convened in Paris on 23-24 March and on 3-4 June.

81. The EUISS also produced a series of publications: the *Chaillot Papers* dealing with subjects of relevance to the security of the EU, such as “EU support to African security architecture: funding and training components”, “From Suez to Shanghai: The European Union and Eurasian maritime security”, “Security Sector Reform in Afghanistan: the EU’s contribution”, “Transferring European technology to China” as well as a *Report* focussing on “The European Security Strategy 2003-2008 - Building on common interests”.

VI. CIVIL-MILITARY COORDINATION

82. Work regarding the identification of information exchange requirements within the four-step methodology noted by the PSC is nearing finalisation.
83. Work has progressed with regard to developing Network Enabled Capabilities (NEC) in support of ESDP. In this context, the importance was emphasized, with a view to implementing the NEC concept, in support of CMCO, that work be taken forward in a gradual and incremental manner with adequate commitment at senior level in the EU institutions and Member States.
84. As part of preliminary work on a study for implementation of NEC in support of ESDP, a supporting workshop "NEC from a civilian perspective" was held in Council premises on 26 May 2009.

VII. SECURITY SECTOR REFORM

85. The Council in May stressed the importance of Security Sector Reform in which the EU is increasingly active. It recalled its agreement in November 2008 to reinforce EU SSR expertise with the creation of a pool of European SSR experts which would enable deployable teams of EU experts to be set up to take part in SSR activities in partner countries.
- The first stage of the implementation of the concept, defining the SSR expert profiles was finalised, and work on subsequent steps is ongoing.

86. The Presidency presented in March a non-paper entitled “Security Sector Reform in the Framework of EU-UN Relations on Crisis Management”, in which it suggested several ideas for further improvement of cooperation and coordination within the EU as well as some concrete areas that could be further examined in the EU-UN co-operation related to SSR issues.
87. The Presidency also organized a seminar in May in New York (under the title “Enhancing EU-UN co-operation in Crises Management: Focus on Security Sector Reform”) with the main aim of promoting a better understanding of opportunities for EU-UN strategic co-operation on SSR. The seminar was held within the context of broader developments in EU-UN co-operation in crisis management, as well as recent EU and UN developments on SSR in both policy and practice (with a particular focus on the cases of the DRC and Guinea-Bissau).

VIII. HUMAN RIGHTS, GENDER AND CHILDREN AFFECTED BY ARMED CONFLICT

88. The importance of the systematic inclusion of Human Rights, Gender and Children Affected by Armed Conflict perspectives in the planning and conduct of ESDP missions and operations, and in the subsequent lessons learned process, was reiterated by the Council on 18 May. In particular, the close cooperation on these issues with the Special Representatives of the European Union (EUSRs), and with the European Commission, has continued to be emphasised. Furthermore, cooperation with local actors, such as NGOs and civil society, for increased impact on the ground, has been advocated. The gender experts in the ESDP missions and operations have also been further consulted in relevant processes.

89. In this connection, active efforts have been made to implement the substance of the UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820 in ESDP missions and operations. The integration of human rights, gender and the protection of children in armed conflicts into the conduct of the operation EUFOR Tchad/RCA has been an important aspect of its work. The PSC was informed by the Personal Representative of SG/HR for human rights in the area of CFSP on gender violence issues in DRC and the Option Paper concerning possible EU actions in this field was presented.

IX. CONFLICT PREVENTION

90. Following up the EU Programme on the Prevention of Violent Conflict (Gothenburg Programme) the EU presented its Annual Report on activities in the field of conflict prevention. This Annual Report sets out the conflict prevention activities of the European Union since July 2008. It also takes account of the European Security Strategy (ESS), the recommendations made in the Annual Report in 2008 as well as the Report on the Implementation of the European Security Strategy adopted by the European Council in December 2008. It also reflects the spirit of the Progress Report of the UN Secretary General on Prevention of Armed Conflicts published in August 2006.
91. Throughout the reporting period, conflict prevention continued to be a key EU objective. Efforts were pursued to improve culture of conflict prevention, further strengthen conflict sensitivity and conflict prevention approach, develop the necessary capabilities and capacities and enhance coherence between the EU's various external policy instruments as well as cooperation between the EU institutions and the Member States. Efforts were pursued to improve the culture and strategy of conflict prevention.

92. An action plan for pooling Member States' best practices in the field of conflict prevention has been approved for 2009-2010.

X. COOPERATION WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS

93. Exchanges of views continued between the Council Secretariat and NGOs in the domain of concept development (SSR, gender, sexual violence) as well as on co-operation in the field.

XI. ESDC AND TRAINING

94. The annual EU Training Programme has been developed and made available via an internet application (Schoolmaster). Training activities in the field of ESDP of the various EU training actors have been evaluated through the regular Comprehensive Annual Report on Training relevant to ESDP (CART 2009).
95. The European Security and Defence College (ESDC) continued to conduct its standard training activities supported progressively by its Internet-based Distance Learning (IDL) System. In June, the ESDC concluded its fourth ESDP High Level Course. Furthermore, two ESDP Orientation Courses took place in Brussels, one in February 2009 and the second one in March 2009. In March 2009, a first joint ESDC/CEPOL seminar took place on EU decision making and mission planning.
96. Following the conduct of pilot activities in autumn last year, the ESDC Steering Committee decided in March 2009 to organise regular courses on Security Sector Reform (SSR) and on mission planning at strategic level in the future. It was also decided that the college will address high-ranking staff and decision-makers with a second pilot ESDP Leadership and Decision-Making Seminar organised in Brussels.

97. The ESDC continued its fruitful cooperation with other training actors. Initial ideas have been presented to further increase this cooperation in line with the ESDC Steering Committee recommendations approved by the Council in December 2008.
98. As regards the “European initiative on the exchange of young officers inspired by Erasmus” of November 2008, significant progress has been presented by the SG/HR in May in his report to Defence Ministers. An Implementation Group was established in the framework of the ESDC Executive Academic Board and had its first two meetings in Brussels on 19 February 2009 and in Brno on 21 and 22 April 2009. The latter was conducted in the form of a working seminar organised by the Czech Presidency. The Implementation Group focused first on a set of “Quick Wins” and the timelines for the development of the initiative. In parallel, and with the support of the University of Liège, work started on a detailed stocktaking aiming at creating an analysis of the different national military educational systems, including the situation on existing exchanges between military academies of Member States. Finally, other actions have been identified including the Presidency's proposal to look into the EU Lifelong Learning Programme for 2007 – 2014 with the aim of exploring the potential offered by existing EU programmes, including their financial resources.
99. As regards the future format of the ESDC, work is ongoing on the elaboration of a new Council Decision evolving the European Security and Defence College in line with the ESDC Steering Committee recommendations approved by Council in December 2008. ’

100. All on-going ESDP Missions have continued with their regular training activities in the area of civilian crisis management. Particular attention has been paid to the training for EULEX Kosovo personnel in connection with its gradual deployment to Kosovo. While Member States are responsible for pre-mission mission specific training, the EULEX Training Team has been organising a short in-mission induction training as well as follow-on in-service training. The induction training plays a crucial role in addressing the possible gaps of training provided to different groups of civilian personnel prior to their deployment to Kosovo. For this reason a significant effort was made by EULEX Training Team in this area.

XII. EXERCISES

101. The European Union Exercise Programme 2010 to 2014 was approved by the Council on 9 June 2009. This five-year programme aims to provide a significant basis for the training and reinforcement of the EU's capabilities to manage crises, aiming to reflect the different training needs of the various ESDP instruments involved.
102. The Council welcomed the successful conduct of the exercise CME 08 and the fact that the majority of its objectives were achieved. The comprehensive evaluation process for the EU Crisis Management Exercise CME 08 was successfully concluded. The exercise was a complex undertaking, with the key focus of exercising the EU's comprehensive approach to crisis management, involving a wide array of instruments, civilian and military.
103. Final preparations are under way for the conduct of the fourth EU Military Exercise MILEX 09, scheduled to take place from 17 to 26 June 2009. The OHQ at Larissa will be activated during the exercise for the first time which will enable it to reach its full operational capability as one of the five national OHQ's contributed to the Force Catalogue.

104. The preparatory work for the EU crisis management exercise CME 09, which will involve the EU Operations Centre and the CPCC in the context of an appropriate scenario requiring EU rapid response to the crisis, has continued. The main planning meeting is planned to take place from 29 June to 1 July 2009.

XIII. INFORMATION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ON ESDP

105. In line with the Article 21 of the Treaty on European Union, the European Parliament was regularly informed of CFSP/ESDP developments by the Presidency, SG/HR and the GSC. Various representatives of the Presidency informed the European Parliament on the Czech Presidency programme.

106. The European Parliament's Subcommittee on security and defence was also briefed by the Director of the Policy Unit on cyber-security, the counter-terrorism co-ordinator on the fight against terrorism, the Personal Representative for non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction on arms export controls and non proliferation and the Director of DGE 8 on EUFOR/Tchad/RCA and the Athena financing mechanism.

107. Official delegations of European Parliament visited ESDP operations and missions. In January, a delegation visited EUNAVFOR/ATALANTA OHQ Northwood to be briefed on the operation and in February a delegation visited EUMM Georgia. In addition in March, a delegation visited the European Defence Agency to be briefed by its Chief Executive on the activities and organisational structures of the agency.

XIV. COOPERATION WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS, MEDITERRANEAN PARTNERS AND THIRD STATES

European Union -United Nations

108. EU-UN Cooperation in crisis management is an important component of ESDP.
109. On 18 May 2009 the Council welcomed the further progress in implementation of the 2007 Joint Statement on UN-EU Co-operation in Crisis Management through a series of concrete steps taken, inter alia, in the field of reinforced dialogue (including regular consultations between the PSC and senior UN officials), on SSR, African peacekeeping capabilities, and the multidimensional aspects of peacekeeping.
110. The Council also noted that consultations continued in other areas of cooperation between the two organisations, such as early warning, training and exercises, planning and arrangements between the EU and UN for transition between operations and encouraged these efforts to be developed further.
111. Following the successful transition from EUFOR Tchad/RCA to MINURCAT, close cooperation and coordination also continued between the two organisations in other theatres of operation in which they are both engaged, notably Kosovo, Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea-Bissau, Somalia and Georgia.
112. On 21 May 2009, the Presidency organised a seminar on “Enhancing EU-UN cooperation in Crises Management: Focus on Security Sector Reform” in New York.
113. The agenda of EU-UN co-operation in crisis management was discussed by the relevant EU committees.
114. The regular meeting of the EU-UN Steering Committee will be held on 24 and 25 June.

European Union-NATO

115. The Council in May recalled the objective of strengthening the EU-NATO strategic partnership, in a spirit of mutual reinforcement and respect for their decision-making autonomy. It noted NATO's statement in the Strasbourg-Kehl Summit Declaration concerning the importance of a stronger and more capable European defence and welcoming the EU's efforts to strengthen its capabilities and its capacity to address common security challenges. The Council particularly stressed the importance of efficient operational cooperation between the EU and NATO, in particular concerning theatres in which the two organisations are both committed. In this context, the close dialogue between the SG/HR and NATO SG was welcomed. Berlin plus arrangements have proven to be effective and efficient, as demonstrated by Operation ALTHEA. The Council reiterated the necessity to continue to further exploit the approved framework for association of non-EU European Allies with the ESDP, in accordance with EU procedures.
116. The need for continued cooperation with NATO regarding the development of military capabilities was underlined by the Council. In this regard, it welcomed the efforts to make the best use of the EU-NATO Capability Group, within the agreed framework, where requirements overlapped. The EU-NATO Capability Group has contributed to transparency between the two organisations in accordance with the Capability Development Mechanism (CDM). With the participation of senior policy-makers from the capitals, as envisaged by the CDM, the Capability Group discussed issues regarding the coherence of capability planning processes and operational availability of helicopters, supported with a number of non-papers delivered in advance by several nations to all Member States. A single issue meeting with national experts was dedicated to unmanned aerial vehicles. Before the Capability Group meetings, all Member States discussed in detail the agenda items and were briefed accordingly after these meetings. As recognised by the Council, in order to continue improving coherence, mutually reinforcing development of military capabilities and transparency, further efforts are needed to ensure effective working methods of the Capability Group, while the participation of all the EU Member States would further facilitate exchange of information in the field of military capabilities.

117. Cooperation between EU and NATO has continued to be fostered on coherent capabilities development where requirements overlap. The Council noted with satisfaction that staff-to-staff technical contacts between EU and NATO experts were established in order to advance the development of a common Information Gathering tool accessible to all Member States, based on the NATO Defence Planning Automated Software System under specific conditions relating to the decision-making autonomy of both organisations.
118. In May the Council welcomed continuing efforts to ensure transparency and coherence between the EU and NATO, including through PSC-NAC meetings, EU and NATO Military Committee meetings as well as meetings with non-EU European NATO members and other candidate countries to the EU. The Council also welcomed the regular staff to staff meetings on issues of common interest and underlined the importance for the PSC to continue being regularly informed.

EU-Africa – Partnership on Peace and Security

119. The political dialogue continued with regular meetings between the EU and Africa at various levels, including the intervention of the AU Commissioner for Peace and Security Lamamra to the EU PSC, on a number of issues, including inter alia on the new Somali Government and the Somali Security Sector. A joint EU/AU-ECCAS mission took place to monitor the security situation in the Central African Republic in close connection with the MICOPAX (Mission de consolidation de la paix en RCA). The initiating seminar on the support to AU mediation capacity was held in March in Addis Ababa. Consultations were held inter alia on EU-AU support to the new Somali Government and the Somali Security Sector. These actions were complemented by a joint EU-AU-UN roundtable, organised in New York pursuant to UNSCR 1325 and 1820, and the AU-EU Task Force meeting in Brussels.

120. Regarding the reinforcement of the APSA, the EuroRecamp-Amani Africa cycle continued with the Contributors Conference, the Initiating Planning Conference and the Senior Decision-Makers Seminar. Furthermore, a joint study to prepare for a European support programme for African Training capabilities, including through defining early deliverables in the field of civilian and police training, was launched in February. The EU has provided requested expertise to the Strategic Planning Management Unit.
121. With the recent agreement on the terms of reference between the AU and a donors' representative, a comprehensive mapping of the overall APSA capacity building needs and gaps will be conducted.
122. Finally, the Common Interactive Watch and Anticipation Mechanism endorsed by the EU-AU Ministerial Troika of 20 November 2008 has been taken forward: a meeting between the EU and the AU in Ispra (Joint Research Centre) has built upon ongoing technical cooperation and training activities.
123. Building on the report from AU/UN Panel chaired by Mr. Prodi, discussions on predictable, flexible and sustainable funding for African-led Peace Support Operations continued in the AU-EU Joint Expert Group.

Cooperation with EUROPOL

124. Work on mechanisms for cooperation between civilian ESDP missions and EUROPOL continued following the signing on 18 July 2008 of an arrangement between the Secretary-General/High Representative for the CFSP and the Director of EUROPOL on the exchange of strategic information, leading to the implementation of the exchange of strategic data between EUROPOL and ESDP Missions through GSC in March 2009. The Council subsequently invited Member States, in close cooperation with EUROPOL and the Council General Secretariat, to examine ways of exchanging personal data. This exchange process, between EULEX and EUROPOL through a number of supporting EUROPOL National Units, is nearing finalisation. The Council also invited the Council General Secretariat and EUROPOL to conduct a joint assessment of the implementation of the mechanisms which is to be conducted during June 2009.

Cooperation with Third States

125. The European Union continued the close cooperation in ESDP crisis management with the non-EU European NATO members and countries which are candidates for accession to the EU, and with Canada, the United States, Russia, Ukraine and other third states. Non-EU European NATO members and countries which are candidates for accession to the EU met regularly with the PSC and the EUMC regarding the development of European Union military operations.

126. Dialogue and cooperation with Mediterranean partners in the area of ESDP has continued. Several of them have participated in operations and training activities run by the European Union.

127. An informal meeting was held between members of the PSC and non-EU NATO members and countries which are candidates for accession (Canada, Croatia, FYROM, Iceland, Norway, Turkey and the United States) in Brussels on 17 March 2009. That meeting took place fully respecting the modalities agreed by the PSC on 3 October 2008.
128. Many third-country participants also took part in two ESDP Orientation Courses organised by the European Security and Defence College in Brussels from 2 to 6 February and from 2 to 5 March 2009.
129. Several third states continued to take part in the ALTHEA military operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Albania, Chile, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Switzerland and Turkey). Albania, Croatia and Russia participated in the EUFOR Tchad/RCA operation.
130. In the context of ATALANTA several third states have announced their willingness to participate. Norway is already involved and will contribute to ATALANTA with naval assets.

XV. MANDATE FOR THE INCOMING PRESIDENCY

131. On the basis of this report and taking into account the European Security Strategy, the incoming Presidency, assisted by the Secretary-General/High Representative (SG/HR) and in association with the Commission, is asked to continue work on developing the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP), and in particular:
- To prepare decisions on current and future missions and operations, civilian as well as military and to ensure their effective implementation and lessons learned processes;

- To continue to develop civilian capabilities in the comprehensive framework of the Civilian Headline Goal 2010, notably to ensure follow-up to the initiatives on the enhanced effectiveness of civilian crisis management on the basis of key operational aspects outlined in the document “Operational aspects of Civilian ESDP capabilities-follow up to Gymnich in Hluboka”, and taking into account the priorities in the “Traffic Lights” paper;
- To continue work on contributing personnel in line with the commitments made at the European Council of December 2008 as well as building upon the findings of the seminar on national strategies on 11th of June 2009;
- To explore synergies between ESDP and Justice and Home Affairs, including by highlighting the mutual operational benefit in the fight against organised crime, developing information sharing between ESDP missions and EUROPOL and by strengthening the involvement of JHA ministers and relevant national authorities;
- To continue to enhance and strengthen mission support to enable the European Union to respond adequately to crises, including by using preparatory measures, improving the timely provision of equipment by developing work on framework contracts and work on a warehouse concept;
- To make further progress on the arrangements for planning in order to ensure rapid deployment of personnel and equipment, including a review of the concept of CRT in order to make it more usable and comprehensive in terms of personnel categories;
- To promote the development of civilian lessons learned processes through adoption of the Annual Report on Lessons Learned in November 2009, in view of achieving continuous learning;

- To continue on-going work within the context of military Headline Goal 2010. Encourage the European Defence Agency (EDA), in close cooperation with the European Union Military Committee (EUMC), to take forward the work on the agreed actions from the Capability Development Plan;
- To support EDA's efforts to generate and develop cooperative projects and programmes in the fields of capability, research and technology and armaments; and to encourage the agency, in close cooperation with the European Commission, to work towards increased synergies between defence and civilian security-related research activities;
- To support the implementation of strategies adopted: the European Defence Research and Technology Strategy, the European Armaments Cooperation Strategy and the European Defence Technological and Industrial Base Strategy.
- To follow up, on the basis of a proposal of the Head of the Agency, the establishment of a three-year financial framework and a budget for 2010 for EDA;
- To prepare Council decisions for approving the draft EDA/OCCAR administrative arrangement, on the basis of a proposal by the Head of the Agency, as well as an EU/OCCAR security agreement;
- To explore possible synergies and coherence between the EU civilian and military capability development processes;
- To promote increased usability and flexibility of the EU Battlegroups as instruments for crisis management;
- To support a close and transparent cooperation between civilian and military actors/systems in the field of maritime surveillance;

- To strengthen training in the field of ESDP, encompassing both civilian and military dimensions, in particular through the European Security and Defence College (ESDC) and taking into account national activities as well as the Community instruments;
- To continue to support the initiative of promoting the exchange of young officers inspired by Erasmus;
- To continue to promote an EU comprehensive approach to conflict prevention and crisis management in ESDP, in line with ESDP agreed guidelines and commitments, and to ensure the effective implementation of human rights aspects;
- To take forward work on the basis of the document “Implementation of UNSCR 1325 as reinforced by UNSCR 1820 in the context of ESDP”, especially in relation to training;
- To take forward work to develop the EU capacity on mediation and dialogue, within the broader context of CFSP and as part of the implementation of the European Security Strategy and the EU Conflict Prevention programme;
- To develop the work on the ESDP contribution to Security Sector Reform (SSR), in particular through the establishment of a pool of experts and by taking forward work on training initiatives and an EU assessment tool for SSR;
- To take forward work on an Action Plan for security and development as a follow-up to the Council Decision of November 2007;
- To take forward work on climate change and security as a follow-up to Council Decision of December 2008;

- To continue to implement the European Union exercise programme, including post exercise reporting of MILEX 09, planning and conduct of CME09, and the start of planning for CME/CMX 10 and for MILEX 10 exercises;
- On the basis of the “Joint Statement on EU-UN Cooperation in crisis management”, continue to promote consultations and cooperation with United Nations in the field of crisis management;
- To enhance the EU-NATO strategic partnership in crisis management, to ensure effective and practical coordination where the two organisations are engaged in the same theatre; to ensure the mutually reinforcing development of capabilities where requirements overlap, including through exchange of information in the EU-NATO Capability Group; to continue the implementation of the existing framework of cooperation between the EU and NATO;
- On the basis of the Africa-EU Joint Strategy and the Action Plan (2008-2010), continue to strengthening the strategic partnership between the EU and Africa, including the African Union (AU), in the area of African capabilities for the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts;
- To maintain close cooperation and dialogue on crisis management also with other key partners, in particular the OSCE, the States that are candidates for accession to the EU, the non-EU European NATO-members, Canada, Russia, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United States and the Mediterranean partners of the Union for the Mediterranean;
- To take forward the dialogue and cooperation with NGOs and civil society in the framework of crisis management and conflict prevention.
