



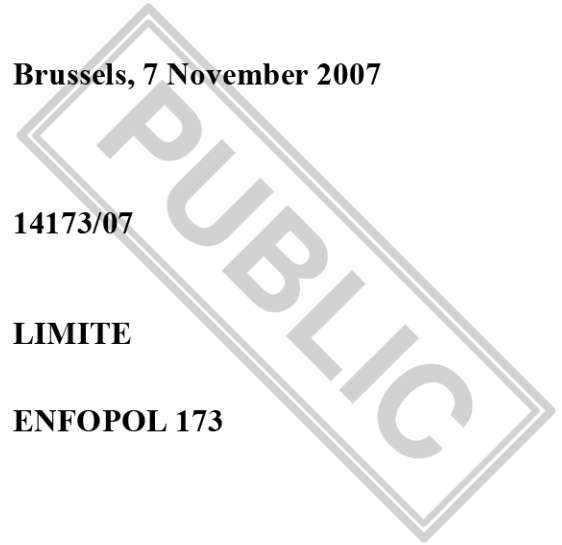
**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 7 November 2007**

**14173/07**

**LIMITE**

**ENFOPOL 173**



## **OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS**

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of : Police Chiefs Task Force meeting

on : 9 October 2007

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Subject : Outcome of proceedings of the Police Chiefs Task Force meeting on 9 October 2007

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### **1. Adoption of the agenda**

The agenda was adopted as set out in document CM 2906/07.

### **2. COSPOL**

#### **2.1 Report of Évora drivers' meeting**

The head of the PCTF Support Unit gave a presentation on the results of the Évora meeting, where the Support Unit, drivers, AWF project managers and Council Secretariat met to discuss COSPOL projects. The meeting addressed the framework of the PCTF and its Support Unit, analysed the strong and weak points of the COSPOL projects, proposed possible solutions to improve them and also discussed available financing options.

Delegations welcomed the critical analysis made of COSPOL and underlined the need for a good use of the resources, both to avoid overlapping with other activities and to ensure that, with good management of resources, including the selection of the right person for the COSPOL driver or forerunner function, the results are enhanced and maximised.

After briefly discussing the future structure and role of the PCTF, it was agreed that this should be done in the light of the future EU Treaty after it has been adopted.

A detailed discussion was held on the following documents:

- 13412/07 ENFOPOL 156: Comprehensive Operational Strategic Planning for the Police (COSPOL ) - Consolidation in the framework of the ECIM, the OCTA, the Council priorities and strategies in the fight against organised Crime and terrorism / Roles and responsibilities (terms of reference)
- 13416/07 ENFOPOL 157: Police Chiefs Task Force Support Unit

Both documents were revised to take account of the comments made by some delegations and it was explained that they would be considered as agreed unless written comments were sent to the General Secretariat of the Council by 19 October 2007. If necessary, the documents would be presented again at the Police Chiefs Strategic Meeting..

## **2.2 Coordination with Customs Authorities and Frontex**

The Presidency explained the work done since the last meeting to enhance the coordination of operational activities with the customs authorities and Frontex.

A mechanism for coordinating operational activities of COSPOL Projects, Joint Customs Operations or Frontex Operations was discussed, as set out in document 13403/07 ENFOPOL 155 ENFOCUSTOM 95.

Subject to some minor amendments and study reservations from the Spanish and Italian delegations, the meeting welcomed and agreed on the proposed mechanism and asked for it to be applied as soon as possible.

## 2.3 Progress report and evaluation on current COSPOL projects

### Terrorism

The driver of this project explained that the “menu of options” aiming to raise law enforcement's awareness of counter-terrorism is now available. It was distributed as a web base document to be uploaded on national police networks. This project could therefore be considered as finalised, even though a regular updating of the data would be necessary, as well as some kind of monitoring of the use of the “menu of options” by the intended users. The driver's proposal for closing the project was accepted by the Police Chiefs.

The Presidency aimed to discuss the need, opportunity and possibilities for the Police Chiefs to deal with counter-terrorism as a separate topic on the agenda.

### Trans-national Eurasian Organised Crime (TNEOC)

The driver presented the state of play of this COSPOL project, and proposed to close it based on three reasons: the small number of participants; key countries not involved and general lack of commitment.

The Police Chiefs agreed to close the TNEOC project and the driver proposed to open a new COSPOL project focusing on the Russian speaking organised crime exploiting ICT in financial crime. The Support Unit was mandated to organise a feasibility study. Subject to the result of this feasibility study, Finland volunteered to be the driver of this possible new COSPOL project.

### CIRCAMP

The driver gave a presentation on the progress made in this project, notably the development and implementation of a blocking technology, including the so called STOP/page, for child pornography sites, which requires the cooperation of Internet Service Providers. The project group had carried out a survey on the national legislation necessary to use this technology and had drawn up a joint policy agreement, which ensures the same working methods in all Member States in order to guarantee the integrity of the project.

The main focus for this project was to increase the use of the blocking technology.

### Western Balkans Organised Crime (WBOC)

The driver of this project explained the current activities of the group and stressed the cooperation with the Italian liaison officers in the Western Balkans region. The criticism that the COSPOL project presented insufficient added value compared to bilateral cooperation was acknowledged and it was stated that the strategy had recently been changed, focusing more on operational areas and achievable goals. At the same time, it was stressed that cooperation in and with this region is extremely important for the EU.

### Synthetic drugs

The driver of this project presented the results achieved so far. The enhanced cooperation with the industry is being established in all participating Member States. She also presented the SWOT analyses carried out by all group members.

The UK delegation strongly endorsed this project and explained that it would improve its participation.

### Cocaine

The driver presented the state of play of the project. One subproject has been completed, and due to the results presented in regard to the setbacks experienced in the other two subprojects, Portugal announced to withdraw its participation as driver of this project.

The UK delegation offered to be the driver of the project after changing the action plan and this was accepted by the Police Chiefs.

### Trafficking Human Beings

The Police Chiefs were informed that the AWF related to this COSPOL project was created in September 2007, which is a crucial development for the project.

Some institutional issues linked to the national structures and legislation that need to be resolved in Romania were mentioned.

In view of these recent developments, the participants of the meeting agreed to extend the deadline of the project, originally set for 31 October 2007, for one more year.

### Facilitated Illegal Immigration

The driver of this project informed the Police Chiefs that a target group had been set up. Contacts to Moldovan and Ukrainian authorities were established. A greater commitment of the participants was required, as well as a better coordination between participation in the COSPOL project and the related AWF. Also, the driver underlined that an application would be made for EU funding of this project, likely to be renewed for at least one year.

### Heroin Trafficking

The driver of this project presented the activities developed for this COSPOL project, including the provision of information to the related AWF, cooperation with international organisations and some training activities.

However, data on on-going investigations should be delivered to bring this project up to speed. The driver drew the attention to the need for a co-driver.

## **3. Analytical capabilities at Europol**

Europol presented its OASIS project, which aims at delivering the Europol Analysis System (EAS). Through an enhancement of the workflows, procedures and business rules (semi-automatic and immediate pre-processing, aiming to simplify collation, normalisation, categorisation of data and ensure a control of source documents), a faster uploading should be possible so that information is available quicker, thereby enabling Europol's analyst to spend 70% of his/her time on analysis and only 30% on inputting information, *i.e.* an inversion of the current ratio.

## **4. Animal Rights Extremists in Europe (ARE)**

Europol gave a presentation on the illegal activities of Animal Rights Extremists, which vary considerably from one Member State to another and do not represent the same threat everywhere in the EU.

The Presidency asked Europol to gather information and present a threat assessment on this subject at the next Strategic Meeting in order to enable the Police Chiefs to decide on the best manner to deal to this phenomenon.

The UK delegation stressed the importance of this subject as the UK has been hit badly by this complex phenomenon, which can have serious financial and economic implications. This could be an opportunity for other Member States to pre-empt a problem that, due to its links to multi-national companies, has international aspects and might therefore spread to other Member States.

**5. Counter-terrorism action by PCTF**

This item was not discussed due to time constraints but would be tabled at the strategic meeting of the Police Chiefs.

**6. Any other business**

The item concerning training on long-term planning was not discussed due to time constraints but would be tabled at the Strategic Meeting of the Police Chiefs.

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