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NOTE

From: Politico-Military Group
To: Political and Security Committee

Subject: EU Coordinated Maritime Presences North Western Indian Ocean
Strategic Communication Plan

DOCUMENT PARTIALLY ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC (16.06.2023)

Delegations will find in annex the EU Coordinated Maritime Presences North Western Indian Ocean Strategic Communication Plan, as agreed by the Politico-Military Group on 21 November 2022.

**EU COORDINATED MARITIME PRESENCES
NORTH WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION PLAN**

I. SCENE SETTER

1. On 21 February 2022, the Council approved the roll out of the Coordinated Maritime Presences (CMP) concept in the North Western Indian Ocean (NWIO). In its conclusions, the Council called for both an Implementation Plan and a Strategic Communication Plan to be presented.¹ On 13 September 2022, PSC endorsed the Implementation Plan for the CMP concept in the NWIO reiterating the need for a Strategic Communication Plan to be presented to PMG and endorsed by PSC². The Strategic Communication plan presented is also a key deliverable under the Implementation Plan, para. 17, “Way Ahead”. The information dissemination matrix in the annex provides key messages for each of the identified communication objectives.
2. In light of the vast geography covered by the new Maritime Area of Interest (MAI) under the CMP, a multiplicity of stakeholders and ongoing and new activities in the region, the need for effective communication, protection against information manipulation, and efficient outreach under the auspices of the Senior Coordinator (SC) for this specific MAI is more pressing than ever. This Strategic Communication plan outlines the communication strategy for the CMP implementation in the NWIO with external audiences and interlocutors to ensure that any communication and counter- disinformation narrative are effective and efficient at all times.
3. The plan, and associated key messages, are not public documents and remain for internal use only. The plan shall be considered a living document. It will be updated in light of the implementation of the CMP in the NWIO, as required.

¹ Council conclusions on the implementation of the Coordinated Maritime Presences concept in the north-western Indian Ocean, approved by the Council at its meeting on 21 February 2022, 6255/22.

² Political and Security Committee (PSC): Implementation plan for the Coordinated Maritime Presences concept in the North Western Indian Ocean, Council document 12140/22, 13 September 2022.

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