



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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**LIMITE**

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**NOTE**

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From: Presidency

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To: Standing Committee on operational cooperation on internal security (COSI)

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Subject: The external dimension of EU Police Cooperation – towards a global and integrated international policing in West African countries”

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Delegations will find in annex the recommendations of the symposium jointly organised by the Presidency and Interpol on 30 September 2010 on the above-mentioned subject.

- Recognizing the need for enhanced and coordinated international police cooperation with West African law enforcement agencies
- Bearing in mind the guidelines and recommendations elaborated in the EU Strategy for Africa, the Strategy of the African Union and the strategic approaches of other stakeholders in the West African region
- Building on existing cooperation agreements at United Nations and EU level with the African Union and ECOWAS
- Taking into account existing and already planned capacity building activities at the level of UN (UNODC), INTERPOL (OASIS), EU (FONTANOT) with WAPCCO and the national law enforcement agencies in the West African region

The **recommendations** for the Symposium on West African countries regarding **operational** international police cooperation are:

#### **Recommendation 1**

Build up on past experiences of technical assistance projects in West Africa and present/future capacity building activities of existing UN, EU, INTERPOL projects in partnership and close cooperation with the West African stakeholders as well as with the national law enforcement agencies in the region.

#### **Recommendation 2**

Identify initiatives for sustainable policing development and international police cooperation in West Africa with local ownership; for instance the development of a centralized regional criminal database accessible for all countries in the West African region.

#### **Recommendation 3**

Identify and agree on a concertation platform in West Africa in order to avoid any duplication of efforts and achieve synergies in a spirit of complementarity using an integrated and integral approach to build up policing capacities in West Africa striving for a mutualization of all stakeholders' efforts.