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DECLASSIFICATION

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Delegations will find attached the declassified version of the above document.

The text of this document is identical to the previous version.



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COVER NOTE

From : European External Action Service
To : Political and Security Committee

Subject : CIVCOM Advice on the Strategic Review of EUPOL Afghanistan

Delegations will find attached the EEAS document with reference EEAS 01853/12, ARES (2012) 1259056.

Encl.: EEAS 01853/12
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EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE



**Crisis Management and Planning
Directorate - CMPD**

Brussels, 26 October 2012

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NOTE

From: Crisis Management and Planning Directorate (CMPD)
To: Political and Security Committee

Subject: CIVCOM Advice on the Strategic Review of EUPOL Afghanistan

Delegations will find attached the EEAS document with reference EEAS 01853/12 as agreed by CIVCOM on 19 October 2012.

**REVISED DRAFT CIVCOM ADVICE ON
STRATEGIC REVIEW OF EUPOL AFGHANISTAN**

1. On 24 July 2012, PSC tasked CIVCOM to provide an advice on the Strategic Review of EUPOL Afghanistan.
2. At the CIVCOM meeting of 25 July 2012, a preliminary discussion was held.
3. On 12 September, 24 September, 10 October and 19 October 2012 CIVCOM discussed and agreed the following advice.

CONSIDERATIONS

4. CIVCOM welcomed the Strategic Review and agreed with its conclusions and recommendations (section IV). CIVCOM also welcomed the accompanying supporting documents by the CPCC and the Mission.
5. CIVCOM acknowledged the significant improvement in mandate delivery and perception of EUPOL over the past two years, achieved through operational refocusing of activities around the three programmatic pillars and the six strategic objectives and through enhanced cooperation with Afghan authorities and key international partners, and reiterated its support to the Mission, which has become a key contributor in support of strengthening civilian policing in Afghanistan.
6. CIVCOM noted that the core mandate of EUPOL, as defined in the Council Decision 2010/279/CFSP of 18 May 2010, remains valid. CIVCOM also noted that further focusing of the Mission's activities is necessary in light of the evolution of the strategic context and the situation on the ground, and in order to maximise Afghan ownership of a sustainable reform process.

7. Regarding functional focus and scope of the Mission, CIVCOM underlined that the Mission should further concentrate its efforts where strategic effect can be achieved and its value-added and cost-effectiveness can be maximised, with due regard to avoiding unnecessary disruption in Mission delivery. CIVCOM considered that *Option 2: Focus on development of civilian policing including its connection to justice*, as outlined in the Strategic Review, (continued focus on training and mentoring activities to strengthen Afghan National Police (ANP) leadership, ANP's efficient cooperation with the justice sector, and sustainable development of key related training facilities), represents a good basis for operational planning. CIVCOM noted that aspects such as human rights and gender remain essential for development of civilian policing in Afghanistan.
8. Regarding EUPOL presence outside Kabul, CIVCOM noted that a reduction of sites is de facto necessitated by the closure of some Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs). CIVCOM welcomed the additional information provided by CPCC and the Mission on progressive reduction of EUPOL presence outside Kabul. CIVCOM also noted that maintaining permanent presences outside Kabul has a number of advantages. Accordingly, CIVCOM considered *Option 2: Concentration in fewer locations*, as outlined in the Strategic Review, as an adequate basis for further operational planning. **CIVCOM requested from the Mission further information on the modalities and security costs for this more concentrated EUPOL presence outside Kabul in the context of OPLAN revision.** CIVCOM requested the Mission to update its communications strategy accordingly.
9. Regarding time horizon of CSDP engagement in Afghanistan, CIVCOM agreed on *Option 2: Extension of EUPOL mandate until the end of 2014 (with a view to return to the issue of post-2014 CSDP engagement)*, as outlined in the Strategic Review, pending approval of the revised OPLAN.
10. CIVCOM noted with concern the highly volatile and unstable security environment in Afghanistan, and stressed that safety and security of EUPOL personnel must remain the highest priority in planning and conduct of operations.
11. CIVCOM stressed the importance of Afghan ownership of, and commitment to, the reform and further development of sustainable rule of law institutions, including the Afghan National Police (ANP).

12. CIVCOM stressed the need for EUPOL to remain fully integrated into the wider international effort to reform the ANP, and the need to maintain and further enhance coordination and complementarity with NATO/NTM-A (or successor) and other key partners, such as the United Nations. CIVCOM underlined the importance of coordination of international initiatives, including bilateral programmes by EU Member States, and the need to maintain a significant EUPOL contribution to the work of the International Police Coordination Board (IPCB) and its secretariat.
13. CIVCOM underlined that EUPOL is part of a comprehensive EU engagement in Afghanistan, and stressed the need to further improve the synergies and complementarity between the different instruments, including through closer coordination on programming.

RECOMMENDATIONS

14. Taking into account the above considerations, CIVCOM recommended that:
 - The planning documents are updated with a view to an extension of the EUPOL mandate until the end of 2014, as outlined in paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 above. The planning documents should be based on the above-mentioned options, as outlined in the Strategic Review paper, and the other considerations above, and take especially into account the impact and value-added of EUPOL's activities and their cost-effectiveness throughout Afghanistan;
 - **PSC to invite the EEAS and Commission to prepare by mid-2013 a paper for comprehensive EU action to support Afghan efforts in strengthening civilian policing and Rule of Law, with the aim of informing a decision on possible CSDP engagement post-2014, taking into account the Council conclusions of November 2011 and May 2012. Without prejudice to Afghan ownership, this document will be based on the implications of the evaluation of the situation and the international engagement in Afghanistan.**

- Given the highly volatile and unstable security situation in Afghanistan, CPCC and the Mission continue to keep security aspects under constant review and make proposals as necessary for possible additional security measures. In addition, an operational security assessment, including a review of safety and security measures for the Mission personnel, including related costs, shall be provided in the context of the update to the Strategic Review by mid-2013.

15. CIVCOM invites the PSC to take note of this advice on the Strategic Review and to endorse its recommendations.

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