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THE EUROPEAN UNION

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REV 1

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EVALUATION REPORT ON THE
THIRD ROUND OF MUTUAL EVALUATIONS
"EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND INTELLIGENCE BETWEEN EUROPOL AND
THE MEMBER STATES AND BETWEEN THE MEMBER STATES RESPECTIVELY"

REPORT ON CYPRUS

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1. INTRODUCTION

Following the adoption of the Joint Action of 5 December 1997, a mechanism for evaluating the application and implementation at national level of international undertakings in the fight against organised crime was established.

Following a proposal originating from the Swedish delegation and taken up by the Presidency to evaluate the supply of information and intelligence to Europol and the exchange of information and intelligence between Member States, the MDG adopted the proposal at its meeting on 3 and 4 June 2002.

At its meeting on 3 December 2002 the MDG approved the questionnaire on the third round of mutual evaluations on the topic "exchange of information and intelligence between Europol and the Member States and among the Member States respectively".

Following discussion at the MDG meeting on 9 January 2003, a list showing the order of Member States to be visited was agreed. Cyprus is the 18th Member State to be evaluated during the third round of evaluations.

The questionnaires and the objectives of this evaluation are contained in 11679/3/02 REV 3 CRIMORG 71.

The experts in charge of this evaluation, which took place between 25-27 October 2005 were: Mr Claude Gillard (Belgium), Mr Joaquim Pereira (Portugal) and Mr Evangelos Stergioulis (Greece). Two observers, Mr Michael Carlin (Commission) and Mr Ruud De Heer (Europol), were also present together with the General Secretariat of the Council.

The evaluation team has prepared the following report with the assistance of the Council Secretariat, on the basis of the observations and conclusions of the experts in the team together with the Cyprus authorities' answers to the questionnaire.

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The report deals first with general information and structures (2), followed by the internal organisation of the exchange of information (3) and the external exchange of information (4), and then deals more specifically with Europol (5). In the last chapter, the experts make a global and technical evaluation and then propose some recommendations to enhance cooperation and effectiveness in the exchange of information within Cyprus and with other Member States and Europol.

2. GENERAL INFORMATION AND STRUCTURES ¹

2.1. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

2.1.1. Acts and decrees

Cyprus has ratified both the European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters between the Member States of the European Union and its Protocol (Law 25(III)/2004) and the Convention relating to Extradition between the Member States of the European Union (Law 11(III)/2004). Both Conventions include provisions for cooperation between the competent authorities of the Member States in order to render their efforts to fight crime more effective and in this respect they include provisions for the exchange of information and other data related to offences and offenders.

In addition to the above, the Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime, ratified by Ratification Law 22(III)/2004, and the Additional Protocol thereto concerning the Criminalisation of Acts of a Racist and Xenophobic Nature Committed through Computer Systems, ratified by Ratification Law 26(III)/2004, provide for the widest possible cooperation between Member States in criminal matters "for the purposes of investigations or proceedings concerning criminal offences related to computer systems and data or for the collection of evidence in electronic form of a criminal offence" (Article 23).

Similar provisions (relating to mutual cooperation and assistance between States) can be found in Article 8 of the Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism, which Cyprus ratified by Law 5/1979.

¹ This part of the report is based partly on the answers to the questionnaire and partly on the documentation provided by the Cyprus authorities.

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In the same framework particular reference should be made to the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organised Crime and the three Additional Protocols thereto, which Cyprus ratified with Ratification Law 11(III)/2003. This Convention contains specific provisions with regard to law enforcement cooperation (Article 27) and collection, exchange and analysis of information on the nature of organised crime (Article 28).

Furthermore, it should be mentioned that Cyprus has adopted the Council Common Position of 27 December 2001 on Combating Terrorism (2001/930/CFSP) via the decision of the Council of Ministers no 59.844 dated 14/04/2004.

In the field of customs cooperation the Convention on Mutual Assistance and Cooperation between Customs Administrations, ratified by Ratification Law 29(III)/2004 (Naples II), entered into force on 1 May 2004, along with the Convention on the establishment of a European Police Office (Europol Convention), which was ratified by Ratification Law 38(III)/2002 and entered into force on 1 September 2004. The Naples II Convention is implemented by the Customs and Excise Department.

As far as money laundering crime is concerned, the Cyprus MOKAS/FIU (Unit for Combating Money Laundering – MOKAS) may exchange information and intelligence with corresponding FIUs of Member States irrespective of their nature. Section 54 (1) (c) of the Prevention and Suppression of Money Laundering Activities Laws of 1996-2004 provides as follows:

"54 (1) The Unit, inter alia, shall-

- (c) cooperate with corresponding Units abroad, for the purposes of investigation of laundering offences by the exchange of information and other relevant ways of cooperation".

Furthermore, given its composition and investigative powers the MOKAS/FIU may exchange information with law enforcement authorities of Member States in specific cases and may also exchange information and intelligence with Europol through the Europol National Unit of the Cyprus Police.

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The exchange of information and intelligence with Europol is covered by the following enactments which ratify and include implementing provisions of the Europol Convention as well as its additional Protocols:

- (1) Convention on the establishment of a European Police Office (Europol Convention) and the Protocol on the interpretation, by way of preliminary rulings, by the Court of Justice of the European Communities of the Convention on the establishment of a European Police Office (Ratification Laws) of 2002 and 2004 (Ratification Laws 38(III)/2002 and 58(III)/2004).
- (2) Protocol amending the Convention on the establishment of a European Police Office (Europol Convention) of 27/11/2003 (Ratification Law 59(III)/2004).
- (3) Protocol on the privileges and immunities of Europol, the members of its organs, the Deputy Directors and employees of Europol (Ratification Law 14(III)/2003).
- (4) Protocol amending the Convention on the establishment of a European Police Office (Europol Convention) and the Protocol on the privileges and immunities of Europol, the members of its organs, the Deputy Directors and employees of Europol (OJ 2002/C 312/01) (Ratification Law 39(III)/2003).
- (5) Protocol amending Article 2 and the Annex to the Convention on the establishment of a European Police Office (Europol Convention) (OJ 2000/C 358/01) (Ratification Law 19(III)/2003).

In the framework of police cooperation as prescribed by the Convention Implementing the Schengen Agreement, it must also be mentioned that upon the accession of the Republic of Cyprus to the European Union on 1 May 2004, Cyprus became a member of the Schengen Community (Cyprus is expected to apply all provisions of the Schengen acquis pursuant to a Council Decision to that effect after verification, in accordance with the applicable Schengen evaluation procedures, that the necessary conditions for the application of all parts of the acquis concerned have been met and after consulting the European Parliament, by the end of 2007).

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This is illustrated by Article 3(1) of the "Act concerning the conditions of accession of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic and the adjustments to the Treaties on which the European Union is founded", which provides that the provisions of the Schengen acquis as integrated into the framework of the European Union by the Schengen Protocol, and the acts building upon it or otherwise related to it, listed in Annex I to this Act, as well as any further such acts which may be adopted before the date of accession, shall be binding on and applicable in the new Member States from the date of accession. Thus, Article 39 of the Schengen Convention, which provides for mutual assistance between the police authorities of the contracting parties for the purposes of preventing and detecting criminal offences, is binding on and applicable to Cyprus and this form of cooperation takes effect via the European Union and International Police Cooperation Directorate at the Police Headquarters.

2.1.2. Bilateral agreements

The following agreements provide for cooperation in the detection and suppression of crime through, amongst other things,

- > exchange of information (data on persons involved in crime, offenders' connections, facts of the case, facilities attacked, description of the laws violated, measures taken, etc.),
- > the adoption upon request of operational and other measures authorised by the national legislation of the requested contacting party,
- > exchange of data and experience on methods of commission and new forms of crime,
- > exchange of results of criminal and criminological research,
- > mutual information on experience of investigation techniques and the application of working methods in order to improve them,
- > the placing at each other's disposal upon request of information on and samples of objects resulting from criminal acts,
- > exchange of crime specialists for joint or mutual training and
- > cooperation to facilitate controlled deliveries in order to make it possible to arrest the persons involved, provided that the necessary information is submitted at least 48 hours prior to the requested action.

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The agreements also provide for the protection of personal data and the setting up of Joint Committees in order to promote and survey bilateral cooperation.

2.1.2.1. with EU Member States

The Republic of Cyprus has concluded bilateral agreements with several Member States of the European Union which provide for cooperation in the combating and prevention of organised crime and other forms of crime.

Austria

Memorandum of Understanding between the Republic of Cyprus and Austria in the field of Justice and Home Affairs, signed on 8/10/2004. The Memorandum contains specific provision on the exchange of information and documentation.

Czech Republic

Agreement on Cooperation between the Ministry of the Interior of Cyprus and the Federal Ministry of the Interior of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, signed in Prague on 7/12/1992, which remains in force between Cyprus and the Czech Republic in accordance with the Exchange of Letters of 19 January 1999.

Estonia

Agreement on Cooperation between Cyprus and Estonia in Combating Organised Crime and other forms of Crime (8/1/2004), Ratification Law 13(III)/2004.

France

Agreement on Cooperation between the Republic of Cyprus and the French Republic on security matters, (Ratification Law 49(III)/2005).

Greece

Agreement between Cyprus and Greece on Cooperation in Security Matters (11/12/1993).

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Hungary

Agreement between Cyprus and Hungary on Combating Terrorism, Drug Trafficking and Organised Crime (Nicosia, 16/9/1991) and its additional Protocol, signed on 28 September 1992, and Agreement between Cyprus and Hungary on Combating Terrorism, Drug Trafficking and Organised Crime (Budapest, 13/6/1996).

Ireland

Agreement on Cooperation between Cyprus and Ireland in Combating Illicit Drug Trafficking, Money Laundering, Organised Crime, Trafficking in Persons, Terrorism and other Serious Crime (8/3/2002), Ratification Law 34(III)/2002.

Italy

Cooperation Agreement for Combating Terrorism, Organised Crime and Drug Smuggling (15/3/1991 and Agreement between Cyprus and Italy on Cooperation in the fight against organised crime and other forms of crime (28/6/2002), Ratification Law 22 (III)/2003.

Latvia

Agreement between the Republic of Cyprus and the Republic of Latvia on Cooperation in Combating Terrorism, Illicit Drug Trafficking and Organised Crime, (Ratification Law 48(III)/2005).

Malta

Agreement on Cooperation between Cyprus and Malta in Combating Terrorism, Illicit Drug Trafficking and Organised Crime (17/9/1999) (L.15(VII)/1999).

Poland

Agreement on Cooperation between Cyprus and Poland in Safeguarding Security and Public Order, Preventing and Investigating Crime (26/10/1992) and Agreement on Cooperation in Combating Organised and other Forms of Crime (18/2/2005) (Ratification Law 34(III)/2005).

Slovakia

Agreement between the Republic of Cyprus and Slovakia on Cooperation in combating organised crime, terrorism, illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances as well as other types of crime (26/2/2004), Ratification Law 5(III)/2005.

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Slovenia

Agreement on Cooperation between Cyprus and Slovenia in the Fight Against Terrorism, Illicit Drug Trafficking and Organised Crime (4/12/2002), Ratification Law 28 (III)/2003.

United Kingdom

Memorandum of Understanding between the Republic of Cyprus and the United Kingdom concerning the Implementation of the Protocol on the Sovereign Base Areas of Akrotiri and Dhekelia in Cyprus in so far as it concerns Illegal Migrants and Asylum Seekers, Nicosia, 20/2/2003.

At this stage, Cyprus is in the process of concluding bilateral cooperation agreements in the same context with Germany and Spain.

In the field of customs cooperation with other E.U. Member-States, the Republic of Cyprus has concluded the following agreements:

Greece

Mutual Assistance Agreement between the Customs Administration of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus and the Republic of Greece (Ratification Law 26(III)/2001).

Italy

Mutual Assistance Agreement for the suppression, investigation and the combating of Customs violations between the Customs Administration of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus and the Government of Italy (Ratification Law 61(III)/2004).

United Kingdom

Memorandum of Understanding between the Customs Administration of the Republic of Cyprus and the Customs Administration of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland regarding Mutual Administrative Assistance on Customs Matters.

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2.1.2.2. with non-EU Member States

The Republic of Cyprus has concluded bilateral agreements on police cooperation with the following third countries: Bulgaria, China, Cuba, Egypt, Iran, Israel, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Romania, Russia and Syria.

Similar agreements are at the negotiation stage with Armenia, India, Ukraine, Mexico, South Africa, Serbia-Montenegro and Uzbekistan.

In the field of customs cooperation, bilateral agreements regarding mutual assistance in customs matters have been concluded with Israel, Albania and USA.

2.2. STRUCTURES

The Cyprus Police, the Customs and Excise Department, as well as the Unit for Combating Money Laundering (MOKAS) are authorities vested with investigative powers inter alia in the Europol-mandated areas.

2.2.1. Cyprus Police

The Cyprus Police, by virtue of the Police Law of 2004 (L.73(I)/2004), is responsible for the maintenance of law and public order, the preservation of peace, the prevention and detection of crime, the apprehension of offenders and the presentation of them before court. The Cyprus Police has jurisdiction over criminal offences committed throughout the Republic. This emanates from the Constitution of the Republic of Cyprus, the Police Law of 2004 (L.73(I)/2004), the Criminal Code (Cap.154) as well as the Criminal Procedure Law (Cap.155).

In particular, as regards the Europol-mandated areas, competence lies with the Drug Law Enforcement Unit for drug trafficking, the Aliens and Immigration Service for immigration networks, the Crime Investigation Department (Police Headquarters) for vehicle trafficking, trafficking in radioactive and nuclear substances and terrorism, the Economic Crime Office of the Crime Investigation Department for forgery of money and other means of payment and the Trafficking in Human Beings Office of the Crime Investigation Department for trafficking in human beings and child pornography. Competence for the investigation of these offences also lies with the Crime Investigation Departments of Divisional Police Headquarters. The Crime Investigation Department at the Police Headquarters, by virtue of Police Standing Order No. 3/26, has authority to act throughout the island and undertakes the investigation of serious and complicated cases in need of extensive investigations.

2.2.1.1. European Union and International Police Cooperation Directorate

Within the Cyprus Police the exchange of information and intelligence with Member States of the European Union is effected through the Europol National Unit, the National Interpol Bureau, the Police Cooperation Office, as well as the Office for Combating Terrorism (in terrorism-related cases). All these offices are under the auspices of the European Union and the International Police Cooperation Directorate of the Police Headquarters.

2.2.1.2. Criminal Forensic Service

The Criminal Forensic Service is responsible for the scientific examination of exhibits and crime scenes, as well as for the presentation of scientific police evidence before the court. The service comprises of the Criminal Forensic Service Examinations Section, the Fingerprints Section, the Photographic Section, the Physical Sciences Forensic Laboratory, the Mobile laboratory and the Exhibits Reception Office. Fully adopting the contents of Council Document 9053/03 ENFOPOL 35¹, steps towards accreditation with accreditation standard 17025 (EN ISO / IEC 17025) for the laboratory testing activities have already been taken by the service, acknowledging that this might eventually contribute to the further credibility of the evidence produced. Cyprus considers this accreditation very important in the field of enhancing cooperation in criminal matters between Cyprus and other Member-States.

2.2.2. Customs and Excise Department

The Customs and Excise Department, as one of the law enforcement agencies of the Republic, has competence in the following Europol mandated areas, to the extent that these are related to customs' jurisdiction, and accordingly exchanges relevant information/intelligence on: drug trafficking, vehicle trafficking, trafficking in radioactive and nuclear substances, child pornography, terrorism and money laundering.

¹ dated 8/5/2003, titled "Use of scientific reports from forensic laboratories as evidence in criminal proceedings"

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2.2.3 Unit for Combating Money Laundering (MOKAS/FIU)

Competence for investigating money laundering offences is vested in the Cyprus Police, the Customs and Excise Department and the MOKAS/FIU, which is a judicial/law enforcement Unit coming under the auspices of the Attorney General's Office. According to the provisions of Section 54 of the Prevention and Suppression of Money Laundering Activities Laws of 1996-2004, the Unit is, inter alia -

"54 (1) responsible for

(a) gathering, classification, evaluation and analysis of information relevant to laundering offences;

(b) conducting investigations whenever there are reasonable grounds for believing that a laundering offence has been committed."

The MOKAS/FIU mainly receives financial intelligence in relation to possible money laundering cases from financial institutions and other entities or professionals who have a reporting obligation.

By virtue of Section 53 (1) of the Prevention and Suppression of Money Laundering Activities Laws of 1996-2004, the MOKAS/FIU is "composed of representatives of the Attorney-General, the Chief of Police and the Director of the Department of Customs and Excise who shall be appointed by the Attorney-General, the Chief of Police and the Director of the Department of Customs and Excise, respectively". The members of this Unit are appointed by detachment and by name and the duration of their appointment is at least three years (Section 54(2) of the aforementioned Law). Furthermore, with an amendment of the Law, Financial Analysts (Accountants) were recruited to work on a permanent basis as members of the Unit.

With the provisions of the Ratification Law of the UN Convention on the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism (Law No. 29(III)/2001), the Unit has been appointed as the Authority to conduct inquiries for any suspicion in relation to financing of terrorism.

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3. INTERNAL ORGANISATION OF THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

3.1. FRAMEWORK

The Cyprus Police, the Customs and Excise Department, and the Unit for Combating Money Laundering (MOKAS/FIU) maintain close cooperation and coordination.

The Cyprus Police and the Customs and Excise Department signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on 29 August 2001. This was effected in compliance with the Council Resolution of 29 November 1996 on the drawing up of police/customs agreements in the fight against drugs (OJ C 375, 12.12.1996, p. 1). The MOU contains provisions in respect of the following matters:

- precise delineation of, and respect for, the competence of each of the said two services, including responsibility for drug seizure and related evidence, questioning and detention of suspects, investigation and, where applicable, prosecution,
- exchange and sharing of relevant intelligence information,
- exchange of descriptions of drug traffickers' modus operandi,
- exchange of information on the application of risk analysis techniques,
- appointment of liaison officers at headquarters level of the two services with a view to building up mutual trust and confidence,
- putting in place close liaison arrangements at local level,
- joint agreed press statements,
- joint police-customs task forces, where appropriate, for intelligence and/or investigation purposes,
- agreed police-customs procedures for operational matters involving both these agencies and, where appropriate:
 - joint police-customs mobile patrol squads,
 - joint police-customs training programmes,
 - sharing of equipment by police and customs.

4. EXTERNAL EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

4.1. DATA EXCHANGE PROCESS

4.1.1. The EU and International Police Cooperation Directorate

This Directorate was established by the end of 2004. Cyprus's Europol National Unit (ENU), along with the National Interpol Bureau (NCB) and the Police Cooperation Office, forms the Sub-Directorate (operations) of the Directorate.

ENU and NCB work according to the standards set out in the respective conventions and the Police Cooperation Office mostly deals with letters rogatory (letters of request) received for assistance in criminal matters and information exchange with liaison officers posted to the embassies of Member States in Cyprus. In addition it receives any request pursuant to Article 39 of the Convention Implementing the Schengen Agreement and may use this channel of communication in the framework of mutual assistance as prescribed in the "Catalogue of recommendations for the correct application of the Schengen acquis and best practices: part on Police Cooperation"¹.

The Office for Combating Terrorism, also a subdivision of the Directorate within the Sub-Directorate (Administration), cooperates closely with liaison officers posted to Member States' embassies in Cyprus.

4.1.2. The Cyprus Liaison Officer at Europol (The Hague)

The ELO undertakes the duties that are provided for in Article 5 of the Convention on the establishment of a European Police Office (Europol Convention). These include provision of assistance in the exchange of information between the Europol National Unit and Europol, in particular by providing Europol with information from the Europol National Unit, forwarding information from Europol to the Europol National Unit and cooperating with officials of Europol by providing information and giving advice as regards analysis of the information concerning Cyprus. At the same time, the ELO assists in the exchange of information from the Europol National Unit and coordination of the resulting measures in accordance with national law and within the framework of the objective of the Europol Convention laid down in Article 2(1).

¹ 9788/1/03 REV 1 SCH-EVAL 40 COMIX 328.

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4.1.3. Foreign Liaison Officers

As regards drug trafficking, further to the information received/sent via the ENU, NCB and Police Cooperation Office, the Drug Law Enforcement Unit of the Cyprus Police, as well as the Customs and Excise Department, maintain direct contacts and exchange information and intelligence with (drug) liaison officers posted in Cyprus from Greece, United Kingdom and France, as well as liaison officers from Germany and Italy posted in neighbouring countries which cooperate with these authorities. Liaison Officers from the United States, Russia and the United Nations are also posted in Cyprus and cooperate closely with the Drug Law Enforcement Unit of the Cyprus Police and the Customs and Excise Department.

4.1.4. MOKAS/FIU

In the field of money laundering, the Cyprus MOKAS/FIU (MOKAS) may exchange information and intelligence with corresponding FIUs of Member States irrespective of their nature. Furthermore, the MOKAS/FIU, given its composition and its investigative powers, may exchange information with law enforcement authorities of other Member States in specific cases.

4.1.5. Customs and Excise Department

Customs cooperation and in particular cooperation between the Customs and Excise Department and respective bodies of other Member States takes place via the customs investigation and intelligence section at customs headquarters.

In addition, Cyprus participates in all Working Groups/Committees of the Council of the European Union concerning Organised Crime, Terrorism and Police Cooperation, in which a representative of Europol is always present.

4.2 CHOICE OF COMMUNICATION CHANNEL

The exchange of information and intelligence between Europol and Cyprus takes place through the Europol National Unit which forms part of the European Union and International Police Cooperation Directorate at Police Headquarters. The Customs and Excise Department, as well as the MOKAS/FIU, also exchanges information and intelligence with Europol through the ENU of the Cyprus Police.

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The exchange of information and intelligence with other Member States takes place through:

- a. the Europol National Unit or (secure link)
- b. the Police Cooperation Office (letters rogatory)
- c. the National Interpol Bureau (I24/7)
- d. the Office for Combating Terrorism (secure channel of BDL - Bureau De Liaison - and the mechanism of the Police Working Group on Terrorism Elcrodat 6.2)
- e. the FIU-network
- f. the Customs and Excise Department (Customs Information System, the Anti-Fraud Information System and the Customs Enforcement Network of the World Customs Organisation).

The selection of the information exchange channel to be used depends on the circumstances of each case. For instance, if an issue refers only to a third country (non-European Union Member State), National Interpol Bureau channels are used. If an issue involves both a third country and an EU Member State, the Europol National Unit is used and the National Interpol Bureau is notified or vice-versa, according to the extent of the involvement. If an issue involves EU Member States, the Europol National Unit and/or National Interpol Bureau channels are used according to the issue in question. In particular, the Europol channel is used as regards offences falling within the Europol mandate as prescribed in Article 2 of the Convention on the establishment of a European Police Office (Europol Convention).

Any distinction made is based on the circumstances of the particular case and the competences of the different channels of communication.

The Director of the EU and International Police Cooperation Directorate transmits all information gathered from the aforementioned channels to the Assistant Chief of Police (Operations), who evaluates and disseminates the information/intelligence to the department/office of the Police concerned for further action.

The above channels provide a satisfactory level of security protection against intruders.

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5. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN MEMBER STATES AND EUROPOL

5.1 DATA EXCHANGE PROCESS

Prior to the entry into force of the Europol Convention in Cyprus on 1 September 2004, a Cooperation Agreement between the Republic of Cyprus and the European Police Office (Europol) was in force, signed on 4 July 2003. The Liaison Bureau at Europol became operational on 18/10/2003. Up to the end of 2003, 102 messages from Europol and 54 messages from the Member States were received. During the same period, 86 messages were sent to Europol and 34 messages were sent to other Member States. During 2004, 785 messages from Europol and 706 messages from other Member States were received. At the same time, 302 messages were sent to Europol and 380 messages were sent to other Member States.

The aforementioned messages were transmitted/received through our Liaison Bureau at Europol. They can be categorised with regard to the criminal offence concerned as follows:

- Forgery of money and other means of payment
- Immigration Networks
- Drug Trafficking
- Terrorism
- Money Laundering
- Trafficking in Human Beings
- Vehicle Trafficking
- Child Pornography
- Trafficking in radioactive and nuclear substances
- Others.

The usual practice is that information is forwarded to Europol during the investigation process. However, information may be forwarded to Europol either before the commencement of the investigation or after the completion of the investigation. In this process, the risks of jeopardising the success of the investigation are always taken into consideration. The conditions which must be fulfilled for information to be passed on to Europol can be summarised as follows:

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- the information relates to Europol's mandate, i.e. cooperation in preventing and combating terrorism, unlawful drug trafficking and other serious forms of international crime where there are factual indications that an organised criminal structure is involved and two or more Member States are affected by the forms of crime in question, in such a way as to require a common approach by the Member States owing to the scale, significance and consequences of the offences concerned;
- the restrictions provided for by Article 4(5) of the Europol Convention.

Each case and any relevant information is properly filed and is monitored through a bring-up system currently being used. The file is kept up to date with any new information/intelligence acquired until the case is closed and Europol is informed accordingly.

No particular delays have been experienced in the provision of requested information/intelligence. Responses are given within a reasonable time and priority is always given to messages marked "urgent".

National Interpol Bureau:

With regard to the last three years, the numbers of messages received from all countries participating in the National Interpol Organisation are indicated below:

- 2002: 25122
- 2003: 23750
- 2004: 25850.

Approximately 75% of the aforementioned messages were sent from European Union Member States.

These messages can be categorised with regard to their subject matter as follows:

- Immigration Network
- Money Laundering
- Drug Trafficking
- Terrorism

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- Forgery of money and means of payment
- Trafficking in human beings
- Vehicle trafficking
- Child pornography
- Trafficking in radioactive and nuclear substances
- Extradition ("Arrest and Extradition" messages or European Arrest Warrants)
- Company check
- Others.

The huge number of messages received (approximately 25000 per year), makes it impossible to give a statistical breakdown of the area of concern of each message.

Office for Combating Terrorism:

a) Information received from Europol:

Information	2003 (12/2003)	2004	2005 (1-4/2005)
Received	4	158	53
Sent	2	107	27

b) Information received from Member States:

Information	2003 (5-12/2003)	2004	2005 (1-4/2005)
Received	60	286	158
Sent	42	210	116

During 2003, the secure communication systems Elcrodat 6.2 and BDL, were not installed. All the aforementioned information/intelligence related to terrorism.

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Police Cooperation Office:

During the period 13/3/2004 – 1/6/2005, this office received 210 letters of request (letters rogatory), sent pursuant to the provisions of the European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters and its Additional Protocol (Ratification Law 2(III)/2000) (it should be noted that this Convention is implemented by the International Cooperation in Criminal Matters Law of 2001 (L.23(I)/2001)). Over the same period 20 letters of request for assistance in criminal matters were sent to other contracting parties to the Convention.

In addition, during the period 1/1/2004 – 1/6/2005, this office received 171 requests for information/intelligence from liaison officers posted to the embassies of Member States in Cyprus and sent 3 requests for information to those officers.

The exchange of information is rapidly increasing and the accuracy of the information is very high. As regards information sent to the Office for Combating Terrorism, in some cases there is a need for further clarification and more details.

The most important partners among the EU Member States are Greece and the United Kingdom, due to the fact that many Cypriot nationals travel or reside permanently in these countries and many Greek or UK nationals visit or reside permanently in Cyprus.

In the area of terrorism intelligence/information, the most important partners among the EU Member States are the United Kingdom, Greece, Spain and Italy. These countries provide us with a continuing flow of information about all terrorism-related events and respond quickly to any request for information.

With regard to drug trafficking, the most important partners among the EU Member States are Greece, United Kingdom, France, Germany and Italy. Cooperation and exchange of information takes place with the liaison officers of these countries posted either in Cyprus or in neighbouring countries.

5.2 DATA PROTECTION

In the field of data protection, Cyprus has signed and ratified the European Convention for the Protection of Individuals with regard to Automatic Processing of Personal Data with Ratification Law 28(III)/2001, as well as the Additional Protocol to this Convention with Ratification Law 30(III)/2003. The Processing of Personal Data (Protection of Individuals) Law of 2001 (Law 138(I)/2001), as amended by Law 37(I)/2003, has been enacted to implement the provisions of this Convention, and also embraces Directive 95/46/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 1995 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data. Section 9(3) of this Law provides specifically that the transmission of data to Member States of the European Union is free, i.e. the transmission of data which have undergone processing or are intended for processing after their transmission to a Member State of the European Union is permitted and no licence has to be acquired from the Commissioner for the Protection of Data (as appointed under Section 18 of this Law), as would be the case with regard to a third country. Thus, information/intelligence concerning personal data may be transmitted to an EU Member State provided that the data are lawfully held and a legal ground for transmission exists.

In the field of data protection with regard to exchange of information/intelligence with Europol, Cyprus has signed and ratified the Convention on the establishment of a European Police Office (Europol Convention) with Ratification Law 38(III)/2002. Article 23 of this Convention provides that "*...each Member State shall designate a national supervisory body, the task of which shall be to monitor independently, in accordance with its respective national law, the permissibility of the input, the retrieval and any communication to Europol of personal data by the Member State concerned and to examine whether this violates the rights of the data subject. For this purpose, the supervisory body shall have access at the national unit or at the liaison officers' premises to the data entered by the Member State in the information system and in the index system in accordance with the relevant national procedures.*". Pursuant to Section 6 of the Convention Ratification Law (L.38(III)/2002), the Commissioner for the Protection of Data has been designated as the National Supervisory Body.

RESTREINT UE

The bilateral agreements that have been concluded with several Member States of the European Union, which provide for cooperation in the combating and prevention of organised crime and other forms of crime (see 2.1.2.), include specific provisions as to the protection of personal data. In particular, these agreements provide that the receiving competent authorities of the one contracting Party may use the data solely for the purpose and under the conditions determined by the delivering competent authorities of the other contracting party, that personal data may be forwarded solely to security and public order protection authorities and may be transferred to other competent authorities only with the prior permission of the delivering authority, and that the competent authorities of the contracting parties must protect effectively the personal data delivered against unauthorised access, change and publication.

5.3. CLASSIFICATION OF DATA

Police Standing Order No. 5/11, issued by the Chief of Police in exercise of the powers vested in him by Section 12 of the Police Law of 2004 (L.73(I)/2004), provides for the classification of information at the following levels:

1. TOP SECRET (ΑΚΡΩΣ ΑΠΟΡΡΗΤΟ): this classification is applied only to information and material the unauthorised disclosure of which could cause exceptionally grave prejudice to the essential interests of the Republic, another State or organisation.
2. SECRET (ΑΠΟΡΡΗΤΟ): this classification is applied only to information and material the unauthorised disclosure of which could seriously harm the essential interests of any Service of the Republic, another State or organisation.
3. CONFIDENTIAL (ΕΜΠΙΣΤΕΥΤΙΚΟ): this classification is applied to information and material the unauthorised disclosure of which could harm the essential interests of the Republic, another State or organisation or the delivering Service.
4. RESTRICTED USE (ΠΕΡΙΟΡΙΣΜΕΝΗΣ ΧΡΗΣΗΣ): this classification is applied to service information and material like educational books and documents intended for internal use only and whose content must not be disclosed to unauthorised persons.

RESTREINT UE

By virtue of Article 4(5) of the Convention on the establishment of a European Police Office (Europol Convention) and the Protocol on the interpretation, by way of preliminary rulings, by the Court of Justice of the European Communities of the Convention on the establishment of a European Police Office (Ratification Laws) of 2002 and 2004 (Ratification Laws 38(III)/2002 and 58(III)/2004), the ENU is not obliged in a particular case to supply the information and intelligence provided for in paragraph 4, points 1, 2 and 6 and in Articles 7 and 10 if this would mean:

- harming essential national security interests;
- or jeopardising the success of a current investigation or the safety of individuals; involving information pertaining to organisations or specific intelligence activities in the field of State security.

Any classified information may be transmitted to Europol, provided that the aforementioned restrictions do not apply. Up to now the ENU has provided Europol with information classified as "confidential" received from the Office for Combating Terrorism.

5.4. JOINT UNITS WITH OTHER EU MEMBER STATES

The bilateral agreements that have been concluded with several Member States of the European Union, which provide for cooperation in the combating and prevention of organised crime and other forms of crime, include specific provisions on the establishment of mixed/joint committees for combating crime, composed of representatives of both contracting parties, to coordinate and evaluate cooperation under these agreements. These committees can hold meetings alternately in the territory of the states of the contracting parties once a year or as agreed by the chairpersons of the committees. Europol is not participating in these committees as they are set up at bilateral level, pursuant to the explicit terms of the relevant agreements.

In the context of the anti-terrorism policy of the European Union, a handbook on "Multinational Ad Hoc Teams" has been issued, providing for the establishment of these teams amongst two, three or more Member States with a view to joining forces (information exchange, technical support, secondment of experts, etc.) in the fight against terrorism. Cyprus supported this initiative and is committed to participating in these teams when deemed necessary.

RESTREINT UE

5.5. DEFINITION OF INFORMATION AND INTELLIGENCE

Section 2 of the Processing of Personal Data (Protection of Individuals) Law of 2001

(Law 138(I)/2001), as amended by Law 37(I)/2003, defines "personal data" or "data" as "any information relating to a living data subject; consolidated data of a statistical nature, from which the data subject cannot be identified, are not deemed to be personal data". For the purposes of this law data subject means "the natural person to whom the data relate and whose identity is known or may be ascertained , directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identification number or to one or more factors specific to his physical, physiological, mental, economic, cultural, political or social identity".

Law 216(I) of 2002, which was enacted to align national law with the Council Decision of 19 March 2001 adopting the Council's security regulations (2001/264/EC), defines the term "EU classified information" as "any information and material, an unauthorised disclosure of which could cause varying degrees of prejudice to EU interests, or to one or more of its Member States, whether such information originates within the EU or is received from Member States, third States or international organisations". Within the meaning of this Law, a "document" is defined as "any letter, note, minute, report, memorandum, signal/message, sketch, photograph, slide, film, map, chart, plan, notebook, stencil, carbon, typewriter or printer ribbon, tape, cassette, computer disk, CD ROM, or other physical medium on which information has been recorded".

Section 2 of Police (General) Regulations (No. 51/1989), issued by the Council of Ministers in exercise of the powers vested in it by Sections 13 and 17 of the Police Law of 2004 (L.73(I)/2004), defines a "document" as anything in which information or a representation of any kind can be recorded or imprinted and it includes any copy taken thereof.

Paragraph 2 of Police Standing Order No. 5/11, issued by the Chief of Police in exercise of the powers vested in him by Section 12 of the Police Law of 2004 (L.73(I)/2004), defines "information" as any knowledge which may be transmitted through any means and a "document" as "any letter, note, minute, report, memorandum, signal/message, sketch, photograph, slide, film, map, chart, plan, notebook, stencil, carbon, typewriter or printer ribbon, tape, cassette, computer disk, CD ROM, or other physical medium on which information has been recorded".

RESTREINT UE

Intelligence/information within police practice are also defined pursuant to a circular letter of the Chief of Police, ref.no. 432/6, dated 11/2/2004, circulated after the meeting "CAM-Critical Area Managers (Operations), organised by Europol on 5/12/2003 at the Hague which was attended by Cypriot police officers. This letter defines "intelligence/information" as "the processes carried out upon the initial information, which provide additional knowledge for an operational or strategic purpose". "Information" is defined as the "initial knowledge" and "intelligence" is defined as "the gathering of additional data and the utilisation of the initial information". "Intelligence cycle" is defined as "the circle of information procedures, for instance the assessment, categorisation, analysis, comparison and dissemination of the enriched information, which can be considered for investigative use".

5.6. EUROPOL NATIONAL UNIT

The manpower of the Unit consists of three police officers. The Unit was linked with Europol on 4/12/2003 when the "secure link" was established, which is used for the exchange of information and intelligence through our Liaison Bureau at Europol. Communication may also be made through e-mail and/or fax machine. The Liaison Bureau at Europol is manned with one police officer.

All information/intelligence/requests received from Europol (The Hague) are forwarded to the departments involved within the Police or the Customs and Excise Department or the MOKAS/FIU.

These offices maintain close cooperation. The ENU may seek information from the various departments/units/services of the Police, the Customs and Excise Department and the MOKAS/FIU on matters falling within Europol's mandate to be passed on to Europol or any Member State that may in any way be involved. This Office has at its disposal, on a day-to-day basis, all messages transmitted to the Police Headquarters regarding the commission of criminal offences throughout the island and may seek further information and/or comprehensive reports on any incident/criminal offence that may fall within Europol's mandate. This allows the ENU to proceed with the necessary notification of Europol and accordingly fulfil Cyprus's commitments with regard to the Europol Convention.

RESTREINT UE

The ENU may also have direct contact with the officers investigating a specific incident/criminal offence where this is considered urgent and a quick response is deemed necessary. All departments/offices of the Police involved in the investigation of criminal offences may apply to the ENU seeking information/intelligence from Europol or any involved Member State on any issue falling within Europol's mandate.

There are no liaison officers from other national law enforcement authorities at the ENU or from the ENU at other national law enforcement authorities.

5.7. AWARENESS OF EUROPOL'S ROLE AND MANDATE

During May 2003 the Cyprus Police Academy established an awareness programme concerning Europol and its functions. At that time three officials from Europol gave lectures to senior police officers of all Departments/Services/Units of the Cyprus Police. This practice has been continuing ever since and the Director of the Public Relations Department of Europol as well as other Europol officers have given various lectures at the Police Academy.

In addition, considerable efforts are being made to train personnel through the awareness seminars organised by Europol, despite the fact that unfortunately only three positions have been given to Cyprus. Three police officers have also attended relevant seminars organised by CEPOL in cooperation with Europol. In 2004, two seminars were organised on "Intelligence Analysis", and were attended by 28 police officers. During these seminars, the police officers had the opportunity to be trained by Europol officials in intelligence analysis and were extensively informed about Europol and its tasks.

Currently, the ENU is in the process of establishing an additional awareness programme for the Cyprus Police Academy. This programme is expected to commence by the end of this year, aiming to inform police personnel about Europol and the ENU's mandate and tasks.

RESTREINT UE

5.8. PARTICIPATION IN AWFs

At this stage, Cyprus participates in two¹ AWFs:

- AWF 99-008 Islamic Terrorism (by the Office for Combating Terrorism) and
- AWF 03-034 SYNERGY.

On 27/4/2005, Europol was informed of Cyprus's intention to participate in AWF 03-032 MARITSA, provided that this Analytical Working File is opened more widely, as is currently being discussed.

Any available information concerning an existing AWF is forwarded to Europol, irrespective of the fact that Cyprus may have no particular interest in the case and may not even be participating in the AWF concerned.

Not all of the existing AWFs have a particular interest for Cyprus. The participation of Cyprus in other AWFs is being considered, in particular DOLPHIN, which is considered important for the Office for Combating Terrorism.

5.9. PERCEPTION OF EUROPOL'S VALUE

Cyprus maintains cooperation with Europol following the entry into force of the Cooperation Agreement concluded on 4 July 2003 and ratified by Law 36(III)/2003, and acceded to the Europol Convention on 1 September 2004. This cooperation has not yet been evaluated. However, considering the recent contribution of Europol to the successful outcome of the investigation of criminal offences with a transnational character, there is no doubt that Europol's functions and tasks are necessary and important.

¹ By the time the evaluation visit took place, Cyprus had expanded its participation to five AWFs with two more under consideration. (see 6.7.6)

RESTREINT UE

Cyprus is aware of the urgent problems arising from terrorism, unlawful drug trafficking and other serious forms of international crime and that there is a need for progress in solidarity and cooperation between the Member States of the European Union, particularly through an improvement in police cooperation between the Member States via a constant, confidential and intensive exchange of information between Europol and Member States' national units. To this end, Cyprus made every effort to accede to the Europol Convention as soon as was objectively possible and has signed and ratified all the existing additional protocols to this convention.

However, Cyprus considers that the establishment of the Information System, as provided for in Title II of the Europol Convention, is extremely important for Europol to fulfil its tasks. There is no doubt that the increased membership and geographical area of the European Union has provided Europol with significant opportunities for enhancing its services to law enforcement. In this sense, coordination and effective and efficient information exchange between the law enforcement authorities of Member States through the Information System will definitely provide a united and bold response to the criminal exploitation of free movement within the wider Europe.

The cooperation of the Republic of Cyprus with Europol has helped to facilitate the investigation process in many cases. Information received through the Europol channels has proved important to the proper completion of investigations concerning criminal offences falling within Europol's mandate. Without doubt, the establishment of the Information System will further contribute to this aim.

The information received is usually of high quality and has helped to facilitate the investigation process in many cases. The Office for Combating Terrorism considers that the Europol reports on terrorism, i.e Open Source Digest, Threat Assessment, etc., are of high quality and extremely valuable for its tasks.

RESTREINT UE

6. EVALUATION MADE BY THE EXPERT TEAM

6.1. INTRODUCTION

Cyprus is the third largest island in the Mediterranean, covering an area of 9 251 km² (including 3 254 km² in the northern part where the Government of the Republic of Cyprus does not exercise effective control¹), with a total coastline for the island of 796 km. The state capital is Nicosia (Lefkosa), with approximately 225 000 citizens².

Administratively, the country is divided into 6 districts (Famagusta, Kyrenia³, Larnaca, Limassol, Nicosia and Paphos).

Greek and Turkish are official languages while English is widely spoken. The total population is estimated at 750000⁴ and mainly comprises two ethnic groups (77% Greek, 18% Turkish and five % Other). With approximately 4 099⁵ police officers, the ratio is one officer per 183 inhabitants.

6.2. ORGANISATION OF THE EVALUATION

The evaluation team met with officials of the Ministry of Justice and Public Order, the Cyprus Police including the Aliens and Immigration Department, the Customs and Excise Department and the Unit for Combating Money Laundering. A visit to the Larnaca Divisional Police Headquarters also provided information about work at divisional level and their cooperation with central authorities.

While focusing on international information and intelligence exchange with Europol and other Member States, the team also took note of national exchange between various institutions and departments involved in the fight against serious, international or organised crime in Cyprus.

¹ Article 1, paragraph 1 of the Protocol 10 for Cyprus annexed to the Act Concerning the Conditions of Accession of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic and the adjustments to the Treaties on which the European Union is founded

² End of 2003

³ Since 1974 in the area where the Government of the Republic of Cyprus does not exercise effective control.

⁴ Last census 2001.

⁵ As of December 2004.

RESTREINT UE

The meetings and presentations were professionally organised and well structured, enabling discussions on all relevant topics. Consequently the evaluation team received a comprehensive overview of law-enforcement structures and organisation in Cyprus with specific emphasis on information and intelligence exchange within Cyprus and internationally.

The experts very much appreciated the open and positive attitude towards the evaluation process of all the Cyprus authorities met during the visit.

6.3. GENERAL COMMENTS

The unique geopolitical situation of Cyprus

- small island at the crossroads between Africa, Asia and Europe,
- 36,2% of the territory and 56,8% of the coastline of the Republic where the Government of the Republic of Cyprus does not exercise effective control,
- no cooperation between Cyprus law enforcement authorities and the area where the Republic of Cyprus does not exercise effective control, however a system of free movement of persons between the two areas creates specific problems for law enforcement authorities.

Cyprus authorities assess the overall level of criminality in Cyprus as notably low. 30% of the registered crime is likely to be related to the 2,3 million tourists visiting the island annually, and the level of organised crime, according to EU standards or definitions, is considered to be low.

However, as stated by the Cyprus Chief of Police, illegal migration and trafficking of drugs emanating from the area where the Government of the Republic of Cyprus does not exercise effective control constitute increasing problems and are amongst the main priorities of the Cyprus Police when it comes to fighting organised crime.

Strategic objectives and priorities for the Cyprus Police would be the introduction of further changes to the organisation, to become more flexible, less hierarchical and more effective. This would include, in particular, the strengthening of the Crime Analysis Unit's resources.

6.4. ORGANISATION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT STRUCTURES

Cyprus law enforcement structures comprise the National Police Service, the Customs and Excise Department and the Unit for Combating Money Laundering (MOKAS), which constitutes the Cyprus Financial Intelligence Unit.

6.4.1. Cyprus Police

Cyprus has only one National Police Service, with a hierarchical structure under the responsibility of the Ministry of Justice and Public Order.

The service is headed by the Chief of Police with a Deputy Chief and four Assistant Chiefs (for training, administration, operations and support services). The police organisation includes five departments at headquarters level

- > Dept. A Administration
- > Dept. B Traffic and Transport
- > Dept. C Criminal Investigation
- > Dept. D Scientific & Technical Support
- > Dept. for Research and Development

and seven District Police Divisions covering the geographical area of the Island.

6.4.1.1. European Union and International Police Cooperation Directorate (EU&IPCD)

The Directorate was established in December 2003 with as its main responsibility the handling of policy issues related to the EU. The Directorate is divided into two sub-directorates, one for administration (EU and international relations) and one for operations (police cooperation).

The total staff of 40 officers includes liaison officers posted abroad and participants in international peacekeeping operations.

The operations sub-directorate comprises the main channels for international communication, namely the Europol National Unit (ENU), the National Interpol Bureau (NCB) and the Police Cooperation Office. All these units share office space, thus allowing direct communication and interaction.

There are no liaison officers from customs or MOKAS/FIU seconded to the EU&IPCD, but those services have nominated points of contact for cooperation and information exchange.

RESTREINT UE

Administratively and operationally the Directorate is under the command of the Chief of Police through the Assistant Chief (administration), with the exception of the office for combating terrorism, which operationally comes under the Assistant Chief (operations). Since this office has recently become more and more operational, the Cyprus authorities are considering integrating it into the Criminal Investigation Department.

The projected SIRENE office is expected to become operational in June 2006 and will be implemented within the same sub-directorate (operations); however, due to limited office space it will have to be physically located in another building on the same compound. Cyprus authorities were aware that this separation would not be favourable but stated that the chosen location for the SIRENE office has the potential to host all four units eventually. Nevertheless, the relocation of the established ENU, NCB and Police Cooperation Unit to this new location is for the time being simply envisaged; there are no concrete plans¹.

The experts took positive note of the current working situation and the good results achieved through this organisational set-up. Although the team was convinced that the Cyprus authorities are fully aware of the advantages a SIRENE physically integrated with the other units² (ENU, NCIB and Police Cooperation Unit) would offer, they feel that the merging of all the units should be prioritised and a feasible solution regarding appropriate facilities should be found before SIRENE is operational.

¹ Following the evaluation visit, Cyprus submitted the following statement: "This building has the potential to host the ENU, the NCB and the Police Cooperation Office and the relevant decision as to the commencement of the necessary construction works for the relocation of these offices to the Sirene building has been taken. It is expected that within 2006 all four units will be hosted in the same building, pursuant to paragraph 1.1 of the E.U. Schengen Catalogue Police Cooperation: Recommendations and Best Practices (Volume IV) which indicates that all offices responsible for international police cooperation (Europol, SIRENE, Interpol etc) should be accessed through a single point of contact, be integrated within the same management structure and located at the same site.

² In compliance with the recommendations of the High Level Group's Action Plan on Organised Crime from 1997, OJ 97/C 251 p. 001-016.

RESTREINT UE

6.4.1.2. Criminal Investigation Department (CID)

This Department comprises central units including those for serious crimes investigations, the crime intelligence bureau, the crime analysis office, and the financial crime investigation office but also coordinates and supervises the work of the divisional CID branches that maintain intelligence offices as well.

Amongst the offices dealing with serious forms of crime, the Department is comprised of the following offices:

- combating trafficking in human beings
- cultural property
- combating organised crime
- combating discrimination
- crime prevention
- prevention and combating of domestic violence and child abuse
- combating intellectual property and betting crime” and the
- national football information point.

6.4.1.3. Drug Law Enforcement Unit (DLEU)

This unit comes under the direct command and supervision of the Assistant Chief (operations) and has divisional branches and representations at major harbours and airports. Within its specific mandate, the unit maintains close cooperation with international organisations and foreign law enforcement authorities.

6.4.1.4. Aliens and Immigration Department

This unit is under the direct command and supervision of the Assistant Chief of Police (Support Services), providing centralized services but also coordinating and supervising the work of the divisional Aliens and Immigration branches. Main tasks are related to:

- The control of aliens at the points of entry (airports, ports) of the Republic
- The prevention of illegal staying and employment of aliens
- Registration and control of aliens residing in Cyprus
- The detection / arrest of wanted illegal aliens
- The combating of illegal immigration.

RESTREINT UE

To achieve these tasks, the Aliens and Immigration Department has established the following offices:

- Operations Department at Police Headquarters, which is responsible for exercising control of aliens in the area which is under the effective control of the Republic
- The Office for Combating Illegal Immigration whose mission is the prevention and combating of the phenomenon of illegal immigration and
- The Trans-Border Control Office whose main task is the coordination of the police services that are involved with border control and security, including the legal points of entry to the Republic, with the aim of ensuring full alignment with existing community law in this respect.

6.4.2. MOKAS/FIU

The Cyprus MOKAS/FIU was established in 1996 under the Attorney General's office and became operational in January 1997. The unit has investigative powers and is authorised to issue directives to financial institutions, the police and others. It comprises a total staff of 15, including three police and one customs officer, and conducts its own financial analysis. The unit is well established and integrated within law enforcement and financial institutions through personal and institutional contacts and through training and regular meetings.

6.4.3. Customs and Excise Department

The Cyprus Customs and Excise Department, though having competences in certain Europol- mandated areas, it is established practice not to conduct investigations in related cases. It supports however police investigations with information and intelligence. The organisation comprises a headquarters and four regional offices with intelligence offices at all levels.

On the basis of the MOU of 2001, customs maintains close cooperation with the police, in particular with the DLEU and the divisional police authorities at the legal points of entry / exit (airports and ports) and also with MOKAS. One customs officer is working at the MOKAS but there is no customs officer posted within the police organisation or at the Cyprus National Desk at Europol. Customs has only appointed points of contact for the police.

RESTREINT UE

Overall, the evaluation team formed the opinion that the Cyprus law enforcement structure provides a division of tasks without significant overlap and that the differing mandates and authorities are respected and supported by all services and units. Nevertheless, the division of competences would require close coordination.

6.5 DATABASES

6.5.1. Police IT support

The Cyprus police has established a well structured and functioning Research and Development Department responsible for the central control and management of all IT matters.

Members of the Department presented an impressive development in this relatively new but rapidly progressing area for the Cyprus Police. In 1988 the Cyprus police had a closed system with two applications and some 60 terminals. The current system, with some 45 web and browser enabled applications, is designed for approximately 2500 users and the Department's strategic plan is aiming at a final status of 3500 users and all District and Police Stations connected and linked to the system.¹

The next projects to be realised include a crime registration and analysis system, a case management system for all police units and a multi-search index system linked to all databases (excluding the log and index system of the ENU/NCB), with different access rights and levels. The establishment of a computer forensics unit is under consideration and could become another relevant project. There are no specific projects planned regarding connection to the EIS.

The Research and Development Department is responsible for database, software, hardware and network components and for technical interaction and access. For each application they assign ownership to the appropriate department regarding content and access authorisation.

¹ According to the presentation of the Research and Development Department, expected to be fully implemented in 2006.

RESTREINT UE

6.5.2. Police databases

Available applications include basic national police databases such as a stop list, criminal records, vehicle registration, stolen property, wanted persons, civil registration, arrivals and departures, stolen vehicles, missing persons, weapons registry, all accessible to a wide range of users. In addition there are databases with a more restricted access, like the aliens register, stolen cultural property of Cypriot origin, hunting shotguns import licences, domestic violent cases, rental cars or falsified documents.

The vast majority of these applications are already linked and directly accessible to the ENU, the NCB and the Police Cooperation Office of the EU&IPCD, offering automated query results.

Two databases are for the time being for the exclusive use of the respective units only: the drugs information databases (one for convicted perpetrators, one for general information/intelligence) and the criminal intelligence database. However, there seem to be intelligence databases at all levels and intelligence units, in addition to the central intelligence units database.

6.5.3. MOKAS/FIU databases

The MOKAS/FIU databases contain information about cases, companies and individuals and documentation on orders issued and case-related correspondence. Police or customs are not connected but can query information via designated points of contact and in regular meetings. MOKAS is seeking additional funds to upgrade its services and introduce a web-based system for receiving and storing information, with different access keys for third parties to submit/access information.

6.5.4. Customs and Excise databases

The customs intelligence & information databases include information about imports, temporary imports, currency declarations and seizures and are not connected to the police or MOKAS owing to data protection regulations and the absence of service agreements.

6.5.5. DNA database

This database, containing approximately 15000 entries, has been established and maintained at the independent Laboratory of Forensic Genetics of the Cyprus Institute of Neurology and Genetics that examines samples on behalf of the police, while the latter remains responsible for national and international exchange of DNA information.

6.5.6. External databases

The property register at the Ministry of the Interior is for the time being directly accessible only to the MOKAS/FIU, but there are discussions on granting access to the entire Cyprus police.

In addition, MOKAS/FIU has also established direct access to some commercial databases. If needed, police and customs can have indirect access to this database in exercise of their investigative powers.

The evaluators assess that the current fragmented system of different units maintaining individual databases under their own responsibility, in particular within specialised units, is lacking coordination. The introduction of the promised multi-search application should bring improvements in the manual retrieval of information, but only a comprehensive information and intelligence system with an automated cross-checking mechanism would avoid double entries and facilitate information flow and exchange between units and services.

In addition, it seemed that current priorities of the Research and Development Department were not taking due account of Cyprus's connection and contribution to the EIS¹.

6.6 INTERNAL EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

6.6.1. Evaluation System

The DLEU just recently started to use the common 4x4 evaluation system for very limited information. The new crime registration and analysis system is ready to integrate evaluated information, but the decision on the introduction of the system as such and its possible scope (which units / for what kind of information) is pending.

¹ Following the evaluation visit, Cyprus submitted the following information: "As regards the EIS, all the preconditions for the participation in this System have been met, i.e. the necessary equipment has been installed in the ENU. The members of the ENU as well as one officer from the IT branch of the Research and Development Department have received proper training from Europol and Cyprus purports to proceed with the request for the necessary accounts from Europol to establish access to the System".

RESTREINT UE

6.6.2. Information exchange / information flow

New cases and incidents are reported daily up to the central level of the Cyprus Police. The EU&IPCD sub-department for operations is holding daily review meetings on all cases with the intention of identifying internationally relevant information that would then be forwarded through appropriate channels.

In case further information is needed EU&IPCD, case officers as well as the Cyprus ELO in The Hague are authorised to contact case-handling units directly (the ENU is always included in such direct information flow).

6.6.3 Intelligence exchange

Specialised intelligence units are established at all services and levels, collecting and storing intelligence in own databases and, as regards the police, also in a central database. The amount of intelligence exchanged or reported to the central level could not be assessed, but it seemed to the evaluation team that most intelligence exchange was taking place following specific incident-related requests as there is no national intelligence model identifying and regulating the collection and exchange of intelligence.

Informants, constituting an important source of intelligence, are handled by police and customs at all levels and units pursuant to certain provisions included in existing legislation. Specifically, as regards the Department of Customs and Excise, operational intelligence officers are in particular responsible for the handling of informants. The Customs and Excise Code of Instructions includes special instructions for the handling of informants, which are undergoing redrafting for updating purposes. In addition, the Director of Customs and Excise Department is empowered by the Customs Code Law of 2004 (L.94(I)/2004) to reward informants. Within the Police, specific guidelines are given to police officers for the handling of informants, as a part of their basic training in the Cyprus Police Academy.¹ However, the experts noted that a central registration system that would identify informants working for several units or both services is lacking.

¹ In the framework of the Schengen Acquis as adopted via the Treaty of Accession of Cyprus to the European Union (Ratification Law 35III/2003), the Decision of the Schengen Executive Committee SCH/COM-ex (99)8 rev. 2 - 28/4/1999, regarding general principles governing the payment of informers, is binding on Cyprus and relevant proposals have been made for the implementation of this Decision via the adoption of a relevant Decision by the Council of Ministers.

6.6.4. Communication system

The capability of law enforcement authorities to use electronic means of communication is considered high. Within the Police, an internal network provides e-mail communication facilities to all levels and units down to station level.¹

Within the Police, communication between the various Departments is not made electronically and hard copies are used when the relevant documents are either classified or refer to sensitive information which cannot be exposed to the risks of communication via electronic means, as this might prejudice the investigation process. This was further explained by representatives of the DLEU who noted that in these cases, the information is forwarded by the divisional branches to the headquarters as hard copies and there they are manually converted into electronic format for entry in the secure isolated database.

The experts consider that a secure communication system, connecting all services and levels, would enable swift exchange of information and intelligence.

6.6.5. Analysis

The central analysis unit within the CID is formally in charge of conducting strategic and operational analysis for the entire Cyprus Police on its own initiative and upon request. For that purpose the unit draws on a staff of four officers. This unit maintains cooperation with all district CIDs in the collection and dissemination of information and intelligence. An upgrade of the unit is already in preparation but covers for the time being only technical resources, not staffing².

As stated by officials, additional analysis is also conducted by the DLEU, the Anti-Terrorism Office and the Aliens and Immigration Department at the central level, as well as by divisional CID units.

¹ Following the evaluation visit, Cyprus submitted the following information: "All officers of the Customs and Excise Department (with various level of access), are connected to the Computerized Import System through intranet, which provides a secure and controlled access. In addition, since October 2005 all instructions and circulars that are not classified, are forwarded to the personal service e-mail address of all customs officers, or to the officers concerned."

² According to information received by Cyprus following the evaluation visit, the Crime Analysis Office will further extent its criminal analysis capacity upon finalisation of the computerisation of the "crime report" document. This procedure, which Cyprus expects to be finalised within 2006, will enable the Crime Analysis Office to make use of all crime-related data and will consequently further assist investigations into serious and/or organised crime.

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Outside the police, the MOKAS/FIU has established a structured system for its own operational analysis and is still developing capacities for strategic analysis. At customs headquarters, experts were told that information is also analysed by its own units.

The evaluators had the impression that there is not sufficient criminal analysis capacity and there is room for improvement regarding coordination of activities and cooperation between analysis units. Analysis results seem to be shared on a case-by-case basis, not following a system or concept. In the light of the above, the evaluators felt that Cyprus could benefit from a national intelligence analysis unit comprising all law enforcement authorities.

6.6.6 Inter institutional cooperation

All authorities in Cyprus referred to the small number of law enforcement officials providing personal contacts and relationships, facilitating cooperation and information exchange. Officials follow a pragmatic approach and key tools for exchanging information and intelligence and facilitating cooperation between units and services are telephone, fax and personal meetings.

Regular meetings with other services for strategic and operational exchange of information are exceptional. The DLEU has institutionalised such meetings weekly, MOKAS/FIU follows a concept of regular meetings of points of contact, while others like the Aliens and Immigration Department and customs rely on incident-related meetings.

The experts realised that a cooperation system based on personal contacts offers enormous advantages but since most of the cooperation is reactive it is also limited to incidents triggering this cooperation. A systematised information exchange with automated cross-checking of information would identify inter-and intra-service matches of available information and identify areas of common interest and avoid overlap.

Case related cooperation takes place on a routine basis between MOKAS/FIU and the police. While MOKAS/FIU conducts full investigations into the money laundering part of cases, the police are responsible for investigating the predicate offence but receive ongoing support from MOKAS/FIU throughout the investigation.

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At district level, cooperation is very much based on personal contacts and between customs and police it is mainly related to controlled deliveries.

It appeared to the team of experts that overall, reactive police/customs cooperation was taking place regularly, but proactive cooperation or joint operations were not common practice.

As an example, when visiting the Agios Dhometios crossing point at the "green line" the experts observed that police and customs had set up control points a few hundred meters apart, and both were conducting their own random checks on vehicles entering from the northern part, but according to the officers involved there was no coordination or joint planning of these checks.

All authorities met showed a great deal of satisfaction as regards the current system and results achieved. When specifically asked about the possible secondment of customs officers to the police (EU&IPCD and/or the National Desk at Europol), both services considered there was no need for such a measure.

6.7 EXTERNAL EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

6.7.1 Information flow

Cyprus has not centralised law enforcement competences when it comes to international cooperation. Several units and services are authorised to exchange information internationally. The total volume of international exchange is impossible to assess since not all those units keep track or maintain statistics, but the information channelled through the NCB and the ENU can be taken as an indicator.

The NCB receives an average of between 23 and 25000 messages/year (75% of those from EU Member States) and sends 2 to 3000 messages annually.

The number of messages received through the ENU has been increasing since it opened, totalling 1 491 messages received and 682 sent in 2004. The experts noted the number of messages coming from the Member States through the Interpol channel. They are of the opinion that these messages may contain valuable information for Europol/AWFs as well.

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6.7.2. Choice of communication channel

In the presentation at the EU&IPCD, officials stated that a case-by-case policy on the appropriate communication channel applied. There would be no written guidelines or procedures in place but the staff would be aware of the Europol Convention and apply it accordingly to identify the right channel. Staff members could always contact their heads of units to discuss further details or to obtain decisions in specific cases.

Besides the Europol and Interpol channels, Liaison Officers are also used to exchange information internationally.

Cyprus currently has one Liaison Officer posted to the National Desk at Europol¹. A police officer acting as a representative of the Ministry of Justice and Public Order is stationed at the Permanent Representation in Brussels and four Liaison Officers are stationed at diplomatic Missions in Cairo (EG), New Delhi (IN), Beirut (LB) and Belgrade (CS), whose mandate is limited to visa application procedures. They would deal with other (OC-related) issues only in very exceptional circumstances.

Foreign Liaison Officers from Greece, the USA, United Kingdom, Russia, Canada, the United Nations and France are posted in Cyprus. Liaison Officers from Italy and Germany are posted in neighbouring countries and accredited in Cyprus.

The DLEU hosts weekly meetings to exchange information and intelligence with customs and all Liaison Officers present in Cyprus. Representatives from the EU&IPCD, in particular from the ENU, only attend occasionally.

According to the presentation by the DLEU, this unit prefers direct bilateral and multilateral contacts for its information and intelligence exchange and exchanges most international information through Liaison officers and only a small proportion through the ENU.

The Cyprus ENU and NCB sometimes make use of Liaison Officers to facilitate the exchange in specific cases.

¹ A second police officer will be seconded beginning of 2006.

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Another channel for communication is bilateral contacts.

The MOKAS/FIU prefers this channel and according to its own statements sometimes forgets to include the ENU due to well-functioning bilateral contacts with other FIUs.

Customs also exchanges information internationally with other customs agencies abroad and OLAF in Brussels.

Regarding the area of the Republic which is not under the control of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, formal communication between the legitimate authorities of Cyprus and Turkey's subordinate local administration is not possible¹. On mainly humanitarian issues UNFICYP exercises liaison functions in resolving any problems that arise. In selected criminal cases foreign Liaison Officers provide relevant information.

6.7.3. Coordination of international communication

As indicated previously, there is no overall coordination of all international law enforcement communication in Cyprus. Several units are involved and a large number of bilateral agreements facilitate international communication. According to a statement by an EU&IPCD representative, the Directorate coordinates all international police cooperation with the exception of direct bilateral contacts of the DLEU with drug liaison officers or with respected services of other Member States pursuant to existing bilateral agreements. The experts learned, for example, that there are regular weekly meetings with foreign Liaison Officers hosted by the DLEU to which members of the Directorate are not always invited.

Some of the law enforcement units authorised to communicate internationally keep track of and document communication, some do not. At the EU&IPCD, both units handling the bulk of Cyprus international police communication, the ENU and NCB, maintain separate databases and log-files. Sharing one office, with the opportunity for direct interaction and inquiries in both databases is the only (manual) way to detect overlap, at least for these units.

¹ UNSCR 541 (1983) and 550 (1984) are relevant.

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The expert team welcomes the combination of ENU, NCB and Police Cooperation Office but considers that in general the fragmented system for international communication may lead to duplication of work and occasional overlapping. Establishing guiding principles and ensuring representation of customs and MOKAS/FIU in the EU and the international police cooperation directorate, as well as a structured system for tracking requests, could improve coordination and help avoid possible overlap.

6.7.4. Europol National Unit

The Cyprus ENU is part of the EU&IPCD and has direct access to a wide range of databases but lacks access to some important ones, like the drugs information system.¹ No officer from customs or MOKAS is posted at the ENU but both services have designated points of contact for their information exchange with the ENU.

When asked, all services assessed the current system for cooperation with Europol as sufficient, providing necessary information in a timely manner.

6.7.5. Cyprus Desk at Europol

The Desk is physically located within Europol and uses the infrastructure made available to it by Europol. The Desk is recognised as part of the ENU and is staffed with one police officer, a former member of the DLEU.

The ELO is pivotal with regard to information exchange with other EU Member States and is authorised to contact any case-handling unit of the Cyprus Police directly for information requests.

6.7.6. Information related to AWF

All Cyprus law enforcement authorities currently participate through the ENU in five AWFs (Synergy-CID; Islamic Terrorism and Dolphin –Office for Combating Terrorism; Smoke-Customs, Sustrans-MOKAS/FIU).

As a matter of general policy, Cyprus contributes information to AWFs regardless of active participation.

¹ According to the Research and Development Department this access is under development. See 6.5.1.

6.7.7. Europol Information System

Cyprus so far seems not to have a guiding concept for its contribution to the EIS. Technical solutions for automated data transfer are not provided or projected, thus requiring manual upload¹.

6.7.8. Awareness

Cyprus has implemented an extensive awareness programme, starting as part of basic training at the police academy and continuing throughout the police career, including:

- lectures and information about international police work at the police academy
- presentations by international experts on specific topics
- commentaries on and dissemination of international decisions and products by EU&IPCD
- special seminars (e.g. about the European Arrest Warrant).

Cyprus authorities are still intensifying this programme and already planning on integrating presentations by the ELO as soon as the second ELO is fully operational.

6.7.9. Assessment of Europol's Value

The overall assessment of Europol was very positive regarding the volume of information flow as well as the timeliness of responses. The experts heard several examples where Europol involvement had led to improvements or facilitation of investigations or operations.

¹ Following the evaluation visit, Cyprus submitted the following statement: "All the preconditions for the participation to the EIS have been met, i.e. the necessary equipment for the participation in the System has been installed in the ENU. The members of the ENU as well as one officer from the IT branch of the Research and Development Department have received proper training from Europol and Cyprus purports to proceed with the request for the necessary accounts from Europol to establish access to the System."

7. GENERAL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXPERT TEAM

The evaluation team was convinced that Cyprus authorities consider the exchange of information, both at national and international level, as very important and are striving to improve their related systems and mechanisms. Officials are fully aware of the increasing responsibilities resulting from their accession to the EU and the experts took positive note of the commitment Cyprus has already shown when changing or reorganising its law enforcement structures or increasing capabilities. The forensic capacity established at the police and the Laboratory of Forensic Genetics of the Cyprus Institute of Neurology and Genetics were notable examples.

In the light of their findings, outlined in this report, the evaluation team found it appropriate to make the following recommendations:

7.1. FOR CYPRUS

7.1.1. Consider the establishment of a comprehensive system concerning criminal intelligence and information with:

- an automated cross-checking mechanism for all law enforcement services,
- formal rules for information exchange and a clear definition of procedure for all levels,
- criminal analysis comprising intelligence from all law enforcement authorities,
- drawing up of guidelines for handling of informants and the establishment of a centralised registration system. (See 6.4.2., 6.5.1., 6.5.6., 6.6.1., 6.6.2., 6.6.3., 6.6.6., 6.7.1., 6.7.2. 6.7.3. and 6.7.4.)

7.1.2. Continue to improve the information flow to Europol; as an immediate improvement, include ENU representatives in all meetings for international information exchange and consider the secondment of representatives from customs and MOKAS to the Cyprus National Desk at Europol as well as to the ENU. (See 6.4.1.1, 6.4.3, 6.6.6., 6.7.1, 6.7.2., 6.7.3., 6.7.4., 6.7.5. and 6.7.6.)

7.1.3. Prioritise the merging of the SIRENE office with the ENU/NCB and Police Cooperation Office, sharing the same location. (See 6.4.1.1.)

7.1.4. Implement a system for swift and secure electronic communication between all law enforcement services and develop and implement a project for national contributions to the EIS. (See 6.5.1. and 6.5.6., 6.6.4.)

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7.1.5. Develop police and customs cooperation to make it more pro-active, with periodic meetings for strategic and tactical information exchange and joint planning of operations. (See 6.6.6.)

7.1.6. Regarding the problems created by the free movement of persons versus the lack of cooperation with the area where the Republic of Cyprus does not exercise effective control, consider pragmatic solutions. (See 6.3. and 6.7.2.)

7.2. FOR EUROPOL

7.2.1 Emphasise in its awareness programmes that the mechanisms and procedures applied for data processing and the handling and dissemination of information effectively prevent the risk of the success of investigations being jeopardised. (See 5.1)

7.3. FOR THE OTHER MEMBER STATES

7.3.1 When exchanging information via the Interpol channel, take into consideration Europol's projects and its AWFs. (See 6.7.1)

PROGRAMME OF VISITS

25 October 2005

0930 – 1030 Presentation of the Cyprus Police – Police Headquarters
1030 – 1100 Interpol
1100 - 1130 Europol
1130 – 1200 Police Cooperation Office
1200 - 1300 Criminal Investigation Department
1345 - 1445 Lunch
1500 – 1600 Divisional Criminal Investigation Department (Larnaca)
2000 – 2130 Dinner

26 October 2005

0930 – 1000 European Union and International Police Cooperation Directorate
1000 – 1030 Office for Combating Terrorism (EU and International Police Cooperation Directorate)
1030 – 1130 MOKAS/FIU
1130 – 1230 Customs and Excise Department
1230 - 1330 Ministry of Justice and Public Order
1330 - 1430 Lunch
1500 – 1530 Drug Law Enforcement Unit
1600 – 1630 Aliens and Immigration Department
2000 – 2200 Official Dinner

27 October 2005

0930 – 1045 Research and Development Department (Meeting with the Head of Information Technology Branch)
1100 – 1130 Criminality Service
1200 – 1230 Institute of Neurology and Genetics (DNA Database)
1300 – 1330 Meeting with the Chief of Police
1330 – 1430 Lunch
1430 – 1830 Round Trip to Limassol and Paphos
1830 – 1930 Dinner

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ANNEX B

LIST OF PERSONS MET

Ministry of Justice and Public Order

Mr. Costas Hadjipavlou Senior Administrative Officer

MOKAS (FIU)

Mrs Eva Papakyriakou Senior Counsel of the Republic/Head of the Unit for Combating Money Laundering

Mr. Theodoros Stavrou Police Officer/Unit for Combating Money Laundering

Customs and Excise Department

Mr. Christos Kodjapashis Customs Inspector/Investigations and Intelligence Section

Mr. Ioannis Monogios Customs Inspector/Investigations and Intelligence Section

Institute of Neurology and Genetics (DNA Database)

Mr. Panayiotis Manoli Molecular Genetics Dep. B' & Laboratory of Forensic Genetics

Mrs Stavroulla Xenofontos Molecular Genetics Dep. B' & Laboratory of Forensic Genetics

Cyprus Police Headquarters

Mr. Tassos Panagiotou Chief of Police

Mr. Charalambos Koulentis Deputy Chief of Police

Mr. Nikos Stelikos Assistant Chief of Police (Operations)

European Union and International Police Cooperation Directorate

Mrs Marianna Frantzi Director of European Union & International Police Cooperation Directorate

Mr. Zacharias Chrysostomou Deputy Director of European Union & International Police Cooperation Directorate

Mrs Elena Panayiotou Officer in Charge of the Legal Cooperation Office/ European Union & International Police Cooperation Directorate

Interpol, Europol, Police Cooperation Office

Mr. Costas Triantafillides Officer in Charge of the National Interpol Bureau

Mr. Andreas Papadopoulos Officer in Charge of the Police Cooperation Office

Mr. Christos Charalambous Officer in Charge of the Europol National Unit

Mrs Fotoulla Mosfili National Interpol Bureau

Criminal Investigation Department

Mr. George Aristeidou Director of Criminal Investigation Department

Mrs Georgia Antoniadou Deputy Director (Adm.) of the Criminal Investigation Department

Mr. Costas Kerimis Deputy Director (Ops.) of the Criminal Investigation Department

Mr. Panayiotis Nikolaides Officer in Charge of the Crime Analysis Unit/Criminal Investigation Department

Mr. Demetris Demetriades Crime Analysis Unit/Criminal Investigation Department

Office for Combating Terrorism (E.U & International Police Cooperation Directorate)

Mrs Maria Charalambous Officer in Charge of the Office for Combating Terrorism

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Drug Law Enforcement Unit

Mr. Charitos Giangou	Commander of the Drug Law Enforcement Unit
Mr. Christodoulos Lazarou	Deputy Commander of the Drug Law Enforcement Unit
Mr. Savvas Charalambous	Administration Officer/ Drug Law Enforcement Unit
Mr. Themis Petrallis	Intelligence and Investigation Office/Drug Law Enforcement Unit
Mr. Marios Andreou	International Cooperation Office/ Drug Law Enforcement Unit

Aliens and Immigration Department

Mr. Savvas Theofanous	Commander of the Aliens & Immigration Department
Mr. Emilios Lambrou	Deputy Commander (Adm.) of the Aliens & Immigration Department
Mr. Christakis Pavlou	Deputy Commander (Ops.) of the Aliens & Immigration Department

Research and Development Department (Information Technology Branch)

Mr. Philippos Akamas	Director of Research & Development Department
Mr. Andreas Panayiotou	Deputy Director of Research & Development Department
Mr. Christos Drakos	Head of the Information Technology Branch/Research & Development Department
Mr. Christos Kairinos	Information Technology Branch
Mr. Charalambos Kokkinos	Information Technology Branch
Mrs Ermi Kantargi	Information Technology Branch
Mr. Athos Agathokleous	Information Technology Branch
Mr. Petros Papaconstantinou	Information Technology Branch

Criminalistic Service

Mr. Nikos Kerimis	Director of Criminalistic Service
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Larnaca Divisional Police Headquarters/Criminal Investigation Department

Mr. Andreas Krokos	Divisional Commander of Larnaca District
Mr. Loucas Louca	Deputy Divisional Commander of Larnaca District
Mr. Iacovos Ioannou	Officer in Charge of Larnaca Criminal Investigation Department

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS/GLOSSARY OF TERMS

ACRONYM ABBREVIATION TERM	ENGLISH TRANSLATION OR EXPLANATION
AWF	Europol's Analytical Work Files
BDL	Bureau de Liaison
CAM	Critical Area Managers
CID	Criminal Investigation Department
DLEU	Drug Law Enforcement Unit
ELO	Europol Liaison Officers
ENU	Europol National Unit
FIU	Financial Intelligence Unit
EU&IPCD	European Union and International Police Cooperation Directorate
MOKAS	Unit for Combating Money Laundering
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NCB	(Interpol) National Central Bureau
UNFICYP	United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution