



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

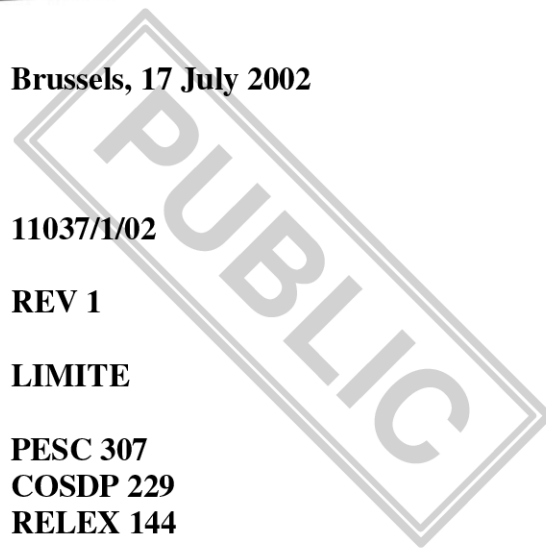
Brussels, 17 July 2002

11037/1/02

REV 1

LIMITE

**PESC 307
COSDP 229
RELEX 144
COTER 37
CONUN 14**



FORWARDING NOTE

from : Secretariat

to : Coreper / Council

Subject : Draft Council conclusions on EU External Action against terrorism

Delegations will find annexed hereto the draft Council conclusions on EU External Action against terrorism, as agreed by the Political and Security Committee on 16 July 2002, for approval by Coreper and Council.

DRAFT**Council conclusions on EU External Action against terrorism**

Further to the Sevilla Declaration, and in line with the European Union's Plan of Action of 21 September, the Council reiterates its commitment in the field of the fight against terrorism in all aspects of the EU's external policy, including CFSP. In this context, and consistent with the obligations established by UN Security Council Resolution 1373, the Council has agreed the following measures to take work a further step forward:

- reviewing and amending counter terrorism aspects of relations with third countries, including as appropriate contractual relations, following the systematic evaluation initiated by the GAC in October 2001;
- focusing political dialogue more sharply on particular countries, regions and multilateral frameworks, and on specific issues related to counter terrorism, and ensuring follow up;
- identifying specific actions to assist third countries in implementing their commitments under UNCSR 1373, and identifying a small number of countries to focus on, in consultation with the UN Counter terrorism Committee, for the purpose of launching a pilot project. The Council takes note of the ongoing Community assistance and invites the Commission to consider further action through the relevant programmes (MEDA, TACIS, CARDS, ALA, etc), also on the basis of work done by other competent bodies;
- increasing the effectiveness of existing instruments implementing UNSCR 1373 including by exchanging best practice;
- implementing and developing the targeted initiatives within the field of non-proliferation, disarmament and arms control adopted by the GAC on 15 April 2002;
- strengthening arrangements for sharing intelligence and developing the production of situation assessments and early warning reports, drawing on the widest range of sources;
- developing a common evaluation of terrorist threat against the Member States or the forces deployed under ESDP outside the Union in crisis management operations, including the threat posed by terrorist use of weapons of mass destruction;
- giving guidance to the appropriate bodies to ensure that the development of ESDP takes fuller account of the capabilities that may be required to combat terrorism, whether for the protection of forces deployed in EU crisis management operations in the scope of the Petersberg tasks as outlined in the Treaty, or as regards the protection of civilian populations against the effects of terrorist attacks. The military and civilian capabilities required for these tasks and the modalities of their co-ordination remain to be determined;

- enhancing co-operation with and within relevant international organisations, as well as with the United States and other partners;
- devoting greater efforts to conflict prevention.

To this end, the Council invites COREPER and the PSC to work on this basis and to examine the proper ways to enhance efficiency and coherence of all of the EU's action against terrorism. The Council will consider adoption of appropriate measures.

The Council will be kept informed on progress with a view to presenting a status report to the European Council in Copenhagen.
