



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 8 April 2003

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LIMITE

**PESC 187
CONOP 9
CODUN 9**

PUBLIC

NOTE

From : Political and Security Committee
To : COREPER/Council
Subject : Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction
- Draft Council Conclusions

1. During the discussions at the GAERC of 19 March 2003 several Member States expressed a wish to develop common EU policy to address the issue of proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction.
2. As a follow-up to a seminar on Non-proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction for the Political and Security Committee organised on 20 March 2003, the Council Secretariat, in close co-operation with the Commission, prepared a document for discussion at the forthcoming GAERC, which drew on suggestions made by several Member States.
3. The Political and Security Committee examined on 8 April 2003 the document prepared by the Council Secretariat. As a result, it suggested that Coreper recommends to the Council the adoption of the conclusions at Annex.

Draft Council conclusions on proliferation of WMD

"The Council had an in-depth discussion of the issue of proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction on the basis of a document from the Secretariat and the Commission and contributions by Member States. The Council reaffirmed the paramount importance of an effective policy against the proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction. The Council instructed the Secretary General/High Representative and the Political and Security Committee, in association with the Commission, to continue work on:

- a global threat assessment (notably by the Sitcen);
- a long term strategy;
- the options presented in the document as well as contributions by Member States with a view to making concrete proposals for submission to the European Council."
