



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 7 November 2005

**DOCUMENT PARTIALLY  
ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC**

14054/05

LIMITE

**ENFOCUSTOM 68  
ENFOPOL 144  
COTER 64  
UD 137**

**PUBLIC**

**NOTE**

---

from: Presidency  
to: Customs Cooperation Working Group

---

No. prev. doc. : 10238/2/04 ENFOCUSTOM 39 ENFOPOL 70 COTER 57 UD 125 REV 2

---

Subject : Second action plan to take forward customs counter-terrorism initiatives  
- Report from the informal working group

---

1. Under cover of document 10238/2/04 ENFOCUSTOM 39 ENFOPOL 70 COTER 57 UD 125 REV 2 an initial action plan was compiled by the CCWG's informal working group on counter-terrorism (the Counter-Terrorism Project Group – CTPG). The covering report and the plan had been discussed at the CCWG meeting on 14 September 2004 and requested and agreed additions inserted in the document referenced above.
2. The current security situation both in Europe and around the world now makes the role of the CTPG – to develop ideas to increase the Customs contribution to fighting international terrorism – even more important than when it was first set up last year.

3. One of the first initiatives to come out of the CTPG's action plan was a multi-agency Joint Customs Operation, Operation Protect. This took place in September/October this year with the objective of targeting high risk containers moving into the EU in sea containers from specified target countries. The operation was a success in creating greater awareness of counter-terrorism work in the customs environment and in developing cooperation in this field between a wide range of law enforcement agencies, both nationally and internationally. It also produced a number of action points which will be taken forward by the CTPG.
4. With this and other work in mind, the CTPG met in September this year to produce a second action plan, which is annexed to this report and which the CCWG is asked to approve.
5. Since the plan was written, the United Kingdom has approached SITCEN with a view to obtaining terrorism threat assessments on CBRNEs moving into the EU by air, sea and land to be used in developing future exercises. And the UK is arranging a further meeting of the CTPG in early December in order to take forward other items on the plan, in particular the idea of an operation covering movements of CBRNEs across the eastern land boundary of the EU.

---

**Working Plan for the Counter Terrorism Project Group  
2005 / 2006**

**Introduction**

The Counter Terrorism Project Group (CTPG) was created in May 2004 as an informal subgroup to the Customs Cooperation Working Group (CCWG) to action the proposals being made in the EU and WCO to combat Terrorism.

**Associated Documents**

- 7218/04 ENFOCUSTOM 16
- 10238/2 /04 ENFOCUSTOM 39 ENFOPOL 70 COTER 57 UD 125 REV 2
- 13793/04 ENFOCUSTOM 70 ENFOPOL 143 COTER 66 UD 150
- 10586/04 JAI 237 ECOFIN 225 TRANS 242 RELEX 291 ECO 123 PESC 536 COTER 44 COSDP 383 PROCIV 93 ENER 178 ATO 61 (EU Plan of Action on Combating Terrorism)
- 16054/04 JAI 559 (The Hague Programme)

**Aim**

Its aim is to identify and promote ways to enable Customs administrations to make a positive contribution to the fight against terrorism in response to and support of The Hague Programme and the EU Plan of Action on Combating Terrorism.

**Objective**

The key objectives of the group are to address the proposals in the Hague Programme (16054/04 JAI 559) and the EU Action Plan on Combating Terrorism (10586/04 JAI 237) and fulfil the objectives of the CCWG Strategy and Action Plan by:

1. Increasing the level of terrorism awareness within Customs administrations;
2. Identifying ways Customs administrations can enhance their capabilities to combat terrorism (EU Plan of Action and Hague Programme);
3. Carrying out operations to test Customs ability to respond to the terrorist threat (Hague Programme)

4. Enhancing inter-agency working (Hague Programme), and
5. Raising the Political awareness of the role of Customs and the contribution they can make to the fight against terrorism.

### **Action Plan**

The following action plan details how the CTPG will take these objectives forward.

**DELETED FROM THIS POINT UNTIL THE END OF THE DOCUMENT (page 11)**

---