



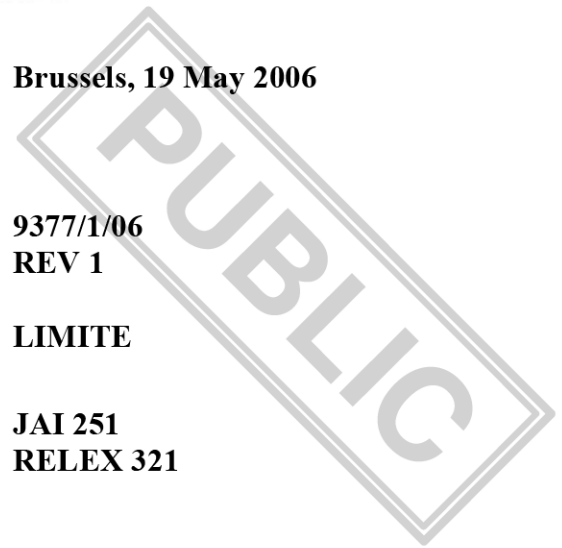
**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 19 May 2006

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NOTE

from : Presidency
to : Coreper/Council

Subject : State of Play in Implementing the Strategy for the External Dimension of JHA :
Global Freedom, Security and Justice
- Ministerial Conference on the “*Role of internal security in relations between
the EU and its neighbours*”, 4-5 May 2006, Vienna

I. General remarks

On 1 December 2005 the EU Justice and Home Affairs Council approved the Strategy for the External Dimension of Justice and Home Affairs¹.

This strategy calls for the elaboration of a partnership with third countries in the field of JHA, which includes strengthening the rule of law, and promoting the respect for human rights and international obligations.

The Presidency accordingly took the opportunity to bring together the EU, its Member States and third countries, in particular countries in the eastern, south-eastern and southern neighbourhood, as well as the Russian Federation and the United States of America.

¹ Doc. 15446/05

This process led up to the Vienna Ministerial Conference on 4-5 May 2006 with Ministers and Representatives from more than 50 countries and international organisations having an exchange of views on the role of internal security in their external relations.

The Conference approved the “**Vienna Declaration on Security Partnership**”, as set out in **doc. 8501/06**.

Part I of the Declaration endorses the general principles of cooperation with third countries within the area of justice and home affairs. It therefore defines key principles for a future partnership for security between EU and interested third countries.

Part II of the Declaration focuses on three priority areas for future cooperation, namely combating terrorism, organised crime and corruption and migration/asylum. Along the lines of principles identified under Part I, concrete measures and action have been identified and agreed.

The JHA Council is therefore invited to take the following **conclusions**:

- *The Council takes note with pleasure of the **results of the Ministerial Conference on security issues which took place on 4-5 May 2006 in Vienna.***
- *It especially **welcomes the participation** of neighbouring countries of the European Union as well as the Russian Federation and the United States of America.*
- *The Council takes note of the adoption of the “**Vienna Declaration**” on a “**Partnership for Security**” between the Union and interested third countries as set out in **8501/06**.*
- *It recalls that the agreed **key principles** as well as **areas and measures for cooperation** as indicated by this Declaration will be fed into the EU’s external relations policy, especially when concluding “Partnerships for Security” in the field of Justice and Home Affairs with interested third countries.*
