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"A" ITEM NOTE

From : Secretariat

To : Council

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Subject : Annual report from the Council to the European Parliament on the main aspects and basic choices of CFSP, including the financial implications for the general budget of the European Communities (point H, paragraph 40, of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 6 May 1999)
- 2005

1. The Interinstitutional Agreement (IIA) of 6 May 1999 on budgetary discipline and improvement of the budgetary procedure, provides under point H, paragraph 40, that "once a year the Council Presidency will consult the European Parliament on a Council document setting out the main aspects and basic choices of the CFSP, including the financial implications for the general budget of the European Communities".
2. The "Foreign Relations Counsellors" Working Group at its meetings on 11 April, 18, 29, 30 May and 7 June 2006 examined a draft report presented by the General Secretariat of the Council.
3. On 8 June 2006, the Committee of Permanent Representatives discussed and agreed on the draft report.

4. The document follows the following criteria:
- its scope is limited to a description of CFSP activities, including common positions, joint actions and implementing decisions ¹ (where appropriate, and where necessary to provide a comprehensive overview of activities, reference is also made to actions falling outside Title V of the TEU);
 - it is complementary to the chapter on external relations of the annual report on the progress of the European Union presented to the Parliament in application of Article 4 of the TEU²; thus the broad priorities of the Union's external relations, as expressed for example in European Council conclusions, are included in the "Article 4" report.
5. The Council is invited to approve as an "A" item the document set out in the Annex on the main aspects and basic choices of CFSP, including the financial implications for the general budget of the Communities, for presentation to the European Parliament in application of point H, paragraph 40, of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 6 May 1999.

¹ The complete recapitulative lists of CFSP instruments (declarations, démarches, reports of Heads of Mission and political dialogue meetings) is, as from 2004, published in a separate document, to be issued twice a year. The information covering 2005 is contained in document 7874/06 PESC 287 FIN 111. Available on the Council website:

² [http://register.consilium.europa.eu/doc.6758/06/POLGEN18PE53+Cor1\(en\).](http://register.consilium.europa.eu/doc.6758/06/POLGEN18PE53+Cor1(en).)

**COUNCIL DOCUMENT ON THE MAIN ASPECTS AND BASIC CHOICES OF THE
COMMON FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY (CFSP), INCLUDING THE FINANCIAL
IMPLICATIONS FOR THE GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,
PRESENTED TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT IN APPLICATION OF POINT H
(PARAGRAPH 40) OF
THE INTERINSTITUTIONAL AGREEMENT OF 6 MAY 1999**

- 2005 -

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PREFACE

The Inter-Institutional Agreement (IIA) of 6 May 1999 provides that "once a year the Council Presidency will consult the European Parliament on a Council document setting out the main aspects and basic choices of the CFSP, including the financial implications for the general budget of the European Communities".

The Council adopted the first such report on 30 March 1998³ and has been reporting annually each year since then. This report covers the year 2005 and also looks at perspectives for future action in accordance with the practice followed since the 1999 report.

The 2005 report follows the following criteria:

- its scope is limited to the description of CFSP activities, e.g. common positions, joint actions and implementing decisions (where appropriate, and where necessary to provide a comprehensive overview of activities, reference is made to actions falling outside Title V of the TEU);
- it is complementary to the chapter on external relations of the annual report on the progress of the European Union presented to the Parliament in application of Article 4 of the TEU; thus the broad priorities of the Union's external relations, as expressed for example in European Council conclusions, are included in the "Article 4" report.

The recapitulative lists of CFSP instruments (declarations, démarches, reports of Heads of Mission and political dialogue meetings) is, as from 2004, published in a separate document, to be issued twice a year. The information covering 2005 is contained in document 7874/06 PESC 287 FIN 111.

³ 7087/98 PESC 66 PE 23

The following items relating to CFSP matters are available on the Council's Internet website (<http://ue.eu.int>): list of CFSP legislative acts, declarations, information on EU Special Representatives and the European Union Monitoring Mission (EUMM), the calendar of CFSP activities, including political dialogue meetings with third countries, as well as basic texts on the EU military structures.

The financial statements related to CFSP Joint Actions, which are normally annexed to the "I/A" item notes to Coreper/Council, are transmitted by the Council Secretariat to the European Parliament on a systematic basis. The documents in question can be accessed through the Public Register of Council documents on the Council website, immediately after adoption of the Joint Action by the Council.

Finally, attention is drawn to the new website on CFSP financing launched in December 2003 by the European Commission and updated in 2005

(http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external_relations/cfsp/fin/index.htm)⁴ and to the new website on CFSP restrictive measures, which was launched by the Commission in June 2004 and provides, inter alia, an overview of the restrictive measures in force and a consolidated list of persons and entities subject to financial sanctions

(http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external_relations/cfsp/sanctions/index.htm).

⁴ The first section of the website focuses on the institutional framework and budgetary procedure for the financing of Joint Actions adopted by the Council under the Common Foreign and Security Policy. It explains how the Commission's involvement differs from the financing and implementation of EC programs.
The second section addresses a number of questions regarding the CFSP budget.
The third and largest section presents an overview of ongoing Joint Actions financed from the CFSP budget, and was comprehensively updated in December 2005.
The website endeavours to meet the European Parliament's demand for transparency in the field of CFSP.

Chapter I

MAIN DEVELOPMENTS IN THE AREAS OF CFSP AND ESDP IN 2005

The European Security Strategy adopted in December 2003 remained the main source of guidance for the European Union Common Foreign and Security Policy in 2005. During this crucial and turbulent year continuous efforts have been made by the Member States and the EU institutions to address, purposefully and in a pro-active manner, the main threats and challenges identified by the ESS and to work towards a truly common and consolidated CFSP.

In order to deal successfully with the growing complexity and the scale of the emerging threats and challenges the EU pursued its objectives through, and in close cooperation with, different multilateral organisations, principally the UN; with international organisations such as the OSCE and the Council of Europe among others; it also cooperated with a variety of regional organisations and at the same time worked very closely with partners and non-state actors.

The ever-increasing range of topics on which the EU works together with the US, among them promotion of the democracy, Rule of Law and Human Rights worldwide, promotion of peace and security, prosperity, progress and good governance in the Middle East, Africa, the Balkans and non-proliferation and the fight against terrorism bears testimony to the dynamism and vital character of the transatlantic partnership. The EU has also significantly enhanced its economic, political and cultural ties with Canada, Japan, India, China, Russia and many other countries.

EU's External Action in the Fight against Terrorism

The fight against terrorism has been a constant main priority of the CFSP. The London bombings proved, as the Madrid events had done before, that the EU and Member States are only a step behind the perpetrators of violence. In December 2005, the European Council adopted the European Union Counter-Terrorism Strategy which outlines the general framework of EU action in the field of counter-terrorism and is complemented by a detailed Action Plan. The European Council also adopted a Strategy for Combating Radicalisation and Recruitment to terrorism, concentrating on Islamist terrorism, which poses the most serious threat to Europe at this moment.

Cooperation with International Organisations and political dialogue with partners, among whom the UN is foremost, are essential components of the EU external relations policy in the fight against terrorism. Respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms were and are key themes in the dialogue with third states. Taking already excellent cooperation even further, the EU and US worked together both at political and expert level in a wide range of issues from transport security to judicial and law enforcement cooperation, and the fight against terrorist financing. The EU also extended its dialogue on counter-terrorism with other partners in areas of common interest and in particular the provision of technical assistance to other countries. The inclusion of counter-terrorism clauses in the EU agreements with third states, and the fulfilment of their provisions, remains one of the primary goals in this regard.

In the international fora the EU will continue to deploy all possible efforts to attain international consensus on the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism, whose adoption would be an important signal that the international community is united in facing the terrorist threat. Equally, the development and adoption of a UN counter-terrorism strategy, based on the proposals of the Secretary General, would be an important step forward in strengthening international counter-terrorism cooperation with third states.

Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, SALW and Arms Export

In 2005 the Council continued to implement the Strategy against Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, which was adopted by the European Council in December 2003. In December 2005, the Council endorsed a revised list of priorities for a coherent implementation of the EU WMD Strategy. This will serve as guidance for EU activities in 2006. The issue of non-proliferation remains high on the agenda of the EU, but also of the G8 and the United Nations.

The EU has concentrated its efforts on strengthening the international non-proliferation system; the universalisation of multilateral agreements, reinforcing strict implementation and compliance with these agreements, assisting third countries, and cooperating further with key partners.

Non-proliferation of WMD occupies an important place in both the EU's contractual relations with third countries (non-proliferation clause) and with regard to action plans in the context of the New Neighbourhood policy. It is essential that a sustained full suspension of all enrichment-related and reprocessing activities continues while agreement on long term arrangements is sought.

In addition, the EU Strategy to combat illicit accumulation and trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons and their ammunition was adopted by the European Council in December and the EU Member States achieved significant progress with respect to the implementation of the European Union Code of Conduct on Arms Exports in 2005.

European Security and Defence Policy

Growing demand for EU support and expertise in world affairs and willingness to act as a global player enabled the EU military and civil capabilities to be strengthened, and increased its expertise in planning and defence spending. As a result, several new ESDP operations were launched while execution of existing ones continued. The European Council decision to have the capacity for autonomous action, backed up by credible military forces in order to respond to international crises and the growing demands of the time has been further implemented during 2005.

Conducting no fewer than seven operations simultaneously and on four continents has been a key component of ESDP's success.

Through the Helsinki Headline Goal and the European Capabilities Action Plan the EU has been working hard to step up the modernisation of the European armed forces, especially in the areas of technology, deployability and interoperability. An important step was achieved with the adoption of the Requirements Catalogue 05 in November 2005.

The establishment of the European Defence Agency and Headline Goal 2010 has led to the revision of the European Capability Action Plan. The EDA is focusing its efforts on solving critical European shortfalls, such as in Command, Control and Communications, intelligence and strategic air reconnaissance. Work continued on developing the EU's rapid response capabilities, the cornerstone of which are the battle groups. Initial operational capability for the battle groups has been achieved for the period 2005-2006. The second Battle Group Co-ordination Conference resulted in commitments ensuring that from January 2007, the EU will have the full operational capability to undertake two battle group size rapid response operations, including the ability to launch two such operations nearly simultaneously.

The Civilian Headline Goal 2008 states the ambitions and tasks involved in the development of EU civilian crisis management and provides for a comprehensive planning process for civilian capabilities. This process started in early 2005 and has been conducted by the General Secretariat of the Council with the support of Member States' experts.

To ensure greater coherence of civilian and military structures the Civil-Military Cell was established in the second semester of 2005. The Cell's two units, the Strategic Planning Branch and the Operations Centre, are today fully manned and operational.

Important steps forward in facilitating increased EU-UN cooperation on crisis management include the conclusion in 2005 of a Security Agreement, allowing for the exchange of classified information, and the appointment of a military liaison officer to DPKO in New York. Further discussions are ongoing between the EU and the UN in relation to how EU battle groups might be used to support UN-led operations.

Against the background of developing the EU-NATO strategic partnership in crisis management, relations with NATO continued to be of particular relevance in the context of ESDP. EU-NATO cooperation in military crisis management is governed by the "Berlin plus" arrangements agreed in 2003. The conduct of Operation ALTHEA under these arrangements as well as cooperation with NATO in its remaining tasks in Bosnia and Herzegovina went smoothly and satisfactorily. The EU and NATO also coordinated their support to the AU in Darfur, in particular as regards strategic airlift. EU-NATO contacts continued in the field of military capability development as well as, at staff level, on exercises.

Protection and Promotion of Human Rights

The protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms as one of the founding principles of the Common Foreign and Security Policy have been constantly raised by the EU in its bilateral relations, in its activities in multilateral fora and in particular during the negotiations on the United Nations Human Rights Council. The EU continued its efforts to ensure the comprehensive implementation of the five EU human rights guidelines and, when confronting human rights violations, called on the governments concerned to redress the situation.

There is a variety of instruments at the EU's disposal to promote and protect human rights, including statements, declarations, démarches, sanctions and human rights dialogues. In this regard the human rights dialogue with China and consultations on human rights with the Russian Federation could be mentioned. Due to a lack of willingness from the Iranian side no EU human rights dialogue could be held with Iran in 2005.

As one of the main actors in the UN Commission on Human Rights, the EU succeeded in getting resolutions adopted on the human rights situation in various countries. Following the decision of Heads of State and Government in September 2005 to create a Human Rights Council as part of a process to reform the United Nations, the EU played a pro-active role in the negotiations in New York by putting in place a reinvigorated body to enhance the credibility and effectiveness of the multilateral human rights system.

Multilateral Fora

In the spirit of effective multilateralism, the EU continued to play an active role in the work of the UN General Assembly and other UN bodies, agencies and conferences and in the process of their reform. The EU welcomed and contributed significantly to the agreement reached at the Summit on 14-16 September 2005 on a balanced and extensive package of UN reforms. The EU strongly supported the adoption of the resolutions establishing the Peacebuilding Commission in December 2005 as a major step forward in the implementation of the Summit outcome and reaffirmed that the EU intends to play an active role in this new body.

The close cooperation at institutional and operational level between the EU and the OSCE has been continued. An ever-increasing number of non-EU OSCE participating States aligned themselves with the EU Statements in the OSCE Permanent Council, thus enhancing the weight of the EU policy in the OSCE context. In the ongoing wide-ranging internal discussion on the strengthening of the OSCE, the EU line in defence of the fundamental values that underpin the OSCE was successful, in particular in maintaining the mandate and the autonomy of ODIHR and the field missions.

The EU also continued strengthening its cooperation with a wide range of other regional organizations, such as ECOWAS, OAS, GCC, MERCOSUR, AU etc.

Co-operation with the African Union and the African sub-regional organisations became more structured and more intensive through EU support both to the AU's AMIS II mission and to longer-term capacity-building measures. The EU Strategy for Africa, which was adopted by the European Council in December 2005, puts a lot of emphasis on peace and security aspects and calls, among other things, for a continued implementation of the ESDP Action Plan. In accordance with the EU action plan on the ICC, adopted in 2004, the EU continued working throughout 2005 to promote the Rome Statute and preserve its integrity. It made démarches to third-country governments, in particular to promote ratification of the Rome Statute and restate the EU position against the conclusion of bilateral non-surrender agreements. In April 2005, the Council authorised the Presidency, assisted by the SG/HR, and the European Commission as appropriate, to formally start the negotiation on the Cooperation Agreement with the ICC.

European Neighbourhood Policy

The European Neighbourhood Policy serves as a tool for the EU to improve stability, democracy and prosperity on the borders of the Union. The EU is closely following the implementation of the ENP Action Plans agreed during the year 2005 with Ukraine, Moldova, Israel, Jordan, Morocco, the Palestinian Authority and Tunisia. The EU is working together with its Eastern European and Southern neighbours in the implementation of reforms and other agreed priorities.

The Council intends to adopt Action Plans for the countries of the Southern Caucasus, Egypt and Lebanon in 2006.

Western Balkans

The EU achieved quite remarkable progress in the framework of the Thessaloniki agenda. All of the countries in the region went up one step on the ladder towards closer relations with EU in 2005. Croatia began EU accession negotiations in October, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia was given EU candidate status in December, negotiations on a Stabilisation and Association Agreement with Albania were almost completed, and the same negotiations began with Serbia and Montenegro in October and with Bosnia and Herzegovina in November.

Work on a Regional Trade Agreement, which will facilitate regional trade and replace the 31 bilateral trade agreements in the region, also got well under way under the guidance of the Stability Pact. In December, the Council concluded Partnership Agreements with each of the Balkan countries, which set out the priorities for the next 12 months. The Council adopted a Common Position renewing for a further 12 months measures in support of the effective implementation of the mandate of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia.

While the Council will pay close attention to political developments and continuing stabilisation throughout the whole region, the EU will pay particular attention to negotiations on the future status of Kosovo and on holding a referendum in Montenegro, both being of key importance in the region.

The Euro-Mediterranean Partnership

The Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, reinforced by the European Neighbourhood Policy, constitutes a powerful confidence-building mechanism for and between all the countries involved. A Euro-Mediterranean Summit was held in November 2005 in Barcelona and a Five-Year Work Programme as well as a Euro-Mediterranean Code of Conduct Countering Terrorism were adopted. In the political and security field, emphasis was given to strengthening democracy, Human Rights and fundamental freedoms, expanding participation in political life, public affairs and decision-making, and further promoting gender equality. The idea of establishing a substantial EU Governance Facility to support the Mediterranean Partners' reform efforts was endorsed; it was agreed to hold a Ministerial meeting to discuss all issues pertinent to migration. Consultations continued aiming to agree on terms of reference on modalities for the organisation of an ad hoc meeting on WMD in the Mediterranean Region.

During 2006 work will concentrate on the implementation of the Five-Year Work Programme agreed at the Barcelona Summit.

Middle East Peace Process

The Near and Middle East is to the forefront of European concerns, not least because of the proximity to the Union and also because of their importance for the citizens of the Union. Commitments by Israel and the PA made in Sharm-el-Sheikh and the conclusion of the “Agreement on Movement and Access” between Israel and the Palestinian Authority were important steps forward in the region. On the basis of this agreement, an international crossing-point between Egypt and Gaza at Rafah was opened on 25 November with the EU - in the framework of an ESDP mission (EU BAM Rafah) - performing the role of the third party as provided for in the Agreement. The EU agreed to establish an EU Police Mission for the Palestinian Territories (EUPOL COPPS), building on the work of the EU Coordination Office for Palestinian Policing Support. This mission, launched on 1 January 2006, aims to support the Palestinian Authority in establishing sustainable and effective policing arrangements and is part of the EU's institution-building programmes and other international efforts, such as in the security sector and criminal justice reform.

The EU has welcomed Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and parts of the northern West Bank, which was pursued by the Israeli government against considerable internal opposition. Palestinian parliamentary elections conducted in a free and fair electoral process resulted in a landslide victory for Hamas. The EU and the Quartet made it clear that they expect the new Palestinian Government to commit itself to the principles of non-violence, recognition of Israel, and acceptance of previous agreements and obligations including the Roadmap. In addition, strong support for the continuation of the dialogue and cooperation between both sides remains in the centre of the CFSP's and the SG/HR's attention.

Iran

Iran's nuclear programme remained in the focus of the EU's attention throughout 2005. Negotiations conducted with Iran by France, Germany and the United Kingdom, supported by the High Representative, have so far failed to reach an agreement on objective guarantees that Iran's nuclear programme was only intended for peaceful purposes. The EU then focused its efforts on maintaining a strong international consensus, including Russia, China, and the US, in order to persuade Iran to return to full suspension and thus allow for a restart of negotiations.

The EU also held several negotiating sessions with Iran on a Trade and Cooperation agreement and a Political Dialogue agreement. However, when Iran restarted uranium conversion in August, the negotiations were stopped.

Efforts to persuade Iran to return to full suspension of enrichment-related and reprocessing activities will continue. At the same time the EU will continue to closely follow all the issues of concern in relation to Iran, including human rights, Iran's role in the Middle East region, counter-terrorism and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery. The EU is open to continuing the comprehensive political dialogue and the human rights dialogue, whereby it can also register its concerns on these issues directly to Iranian authorities as well as in EU statements and on international meetings.

Afghanistan

The EU committed itself to long-term support for the Government and people of Afghanistan through Afghan-led security and governance reform. The establishment of Afghanistan's Parliament marked the formal completion of the implementation of the Bonn agreement. The country has achieved remarkable progress in the last few years, but significant challenges remain. The EU - Afghanistan Joint Political Declaration, signed in November 2005, and the Afghanistan Compact, adopted by the London Conference, have still to be implemented, and the EU's main objective - the establishment of a democratic, accountable and sustainable Afghan State - has still to be achieved. In the time to come, the EU will pay special attention, as regards Afghanistan, to governance and administrative reform, judicial and security sector reform, human rights, democratization and transitional justice.

Iraq

The EU also continued to strengthen its relations with Iraq through its support of the political and economic reconstruction of Iraq in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 1546. The EU continued to make substantial contributions to the International Reconstruction Fund Facility for Iraq. As part of its efforts to help address the urgent needs of the Iraqi criminal justice system, the Council adopted a Joint Action on the EU Integrated Rule of Law Mission for Iraq in March 2005. The Rule of Law Mission provides training for high and mid-level officials in senior management and criminal investigation.

Political dialogue at all levels is expected to continue in 2006 with the general aim of supporting the constitutionally elected Council of Representatives and the new Government in accordance with the needs established by Iraq, including, if requested, by supporting the process of implementing the Iraqi Constitution.

Challenges ahead

As several unexpected developments, such as the South Asian Tsunami and the energy crisis between Russia and Ukraine have shown, the EU needs to continue its efforts to build up its culture of prevention and forward planning for addressing the emerging conflicts and challenges ahead. While the Council adopted the annual Report on EU activities in the framework of prevention, including implementation of the EU Programme for the Prevention of Violent Conflicts, and efforts have been made by the EU to extend the EU's early warning capabilities, the central task in this field remains how to improve the link between early warning and early action.

One of the challenges, alongside the peaceful development of multiethnic and multicultural societies within the EU and its neighbourhood and the achievement of the EU Energy Security in the years to come, appears to be improved democracy promotion in the Union's foreign and security policy, which should naturally serve the interests of the Union and its citizens.

In order to fulfil the tasks mentioned and to meet the challenges described in an efficient way, collective EU action in the field of CFSP should not only rely on willingness and capabilities, but also on the financial resources available for the European Common Foreign and Security Policy. The decision taken at Hampton Court to, in principle, substantially increase the CFSP budget is therefore to be welcomed.

Finally, in spite of setbacks with the ratification of the EU Constitution, the current period of reflection should be used by the EU as a possibility to substantially improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the cooperation between and within its Member States and the EU institutions so that the EU may remain a globally capable, coherent, active and respected actor. The full range of the current instruments at the EU's disposal should be further developed to achieve this ambitious goal.

Chapter II

THEMATIC ASPECTS

1. COUNTER-TERRORISM STRATEGY

In December 2005, the European Council adopted the European Union Counter-Terrorism Strategy⁵ which outlines the general framework of EU action in the field of counter-terrorism. The Strategy is divided into four strands:

- to **prevent** people from turning to terrorism by tackling the root causes which can lead to radicalisation and recruitment;
- to **protect** citizens and infrastructure and reduce our vulnerability to attack;
- to **pursue** and investigate terrorists in the EU and globally, to impede planning, travel and communications, to disrupt support networks, to cut off funding and access to attack materials, and bring terrorists to justice;
- to **respond** by preparing ourselves to manage and minimise the consequences of a terrorist attack.

The strategy is complemented by a detailed Action Plan, listing all measures under the four strands of the strategy.

The December European Council also adopted a Strategy for Combating Radicalisation and Recruitment to terrorism⁶ which includes an important international dimension. While recognising that Europe has been confronted with different types of terrorism in the past, the Strategy for Combating Radicalisation and Recruitment concentrates on Islamist terrorism, which poses the most serious threat to Europe at this moment. The strategy sets out the general framework for action to disrupt the activities of networks and individuals who draw people into terrorism; ensure that voices of mainstream opinion prevail over those of extremism; and promote yet more vigorously security, justice, democracy and opportunity for all.

⁵ 14469/4/05 REV 3 JAI 423 ECOFIN 353 TRANS 234 RELEX 639 ECO 136 PESC 1010
COTER 72 COSDP 810 PROCIV 174 ENER 172 ATO 103

⁶ 14781/1/05 REV 1 JAI 452 ENFOPOL 164 COTER 81

In pursuing its objectives in the field of counter-terrorism, the EU continued to work closely with partners outside of the European Union. More than ever, the terrorist threat is international in nature. The EU's policies to counter this threat can only be truly successful if they are part of a coordinated world-wide effort to defeat terrorism. In that respect, the EU continued to promote the key role of the UN in the fight against terrorism. The adoption of a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism would be an important signal that the international community is united in facing the terrorist threat. Equally, the development and adoption of a UN counter-terrorism strategy, based on the proposals of the Secretary-General, would be an important step forward in strengthening international counter-terrorism cooperation. Therefore, the EU will continue to deploy efforts to attain an international consensus on the Comprehensive Convention and the UN strategy.

Political dialogue with partners is an essential component of the EU external relations policy in the fight against terrorism. Respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the fight against terrorism were key themes in this dialogue. Substantial work was carried out with a number of countries in order to enhance counter-terrorism cooperation. On the basis of needs assessment missions carried out in June, the EU and its Member States have agreed to provide counter-terrorism assistance to Morocco and Algeria. Consultations with other countries at political level were brought forward. The EU also contributed to capacity-building at regional level. The Commission and some Member States provided financial aid and seconded staff to the Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement Cooperation (JCLEC) in Indonesia. Options for contributions to the African Union counterterrorism centre based in Algiers are being examined.

Cooperation with the US in the fight against terrorism remained excellent. The EU and the US worked together to deepen their dialogue, both at political and expert level. Discussions covered a wide range of issues from transport security to judicial and law enforcement cooperation, and the fight against terrorist financing.

The EU also extended its dialogue on counter-terrorism with other partners like Israel, Japan, Australia, Canada and Russia. Areas of common interest and options for cooperation were taken into account, in particular the provision of technical assistance to other countries.

The EU and Russia started to discuss the implementation of the Common Spaces of Freedom, Security and Justice, and of External Security.

Progress was also accomplished in ongoing areas of work such as military capability development, where the terrorist threat was incorporated in all the relevant illustrative scenarios used for identifying the assets and capabilities needed for EU-led crisis management operations.

2. NON-PROLIFERATION

2.1. Fight against proliferation of weapons of mass destruction

General framework

In 2005 the Council continued to implement the Strategy against Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, which was adopted by the European Council in December 2003⁷. The issue of non-proliferation remains high on the agenda of the EU, but also of the G8 and the United Nations. EU efforts contribute i.a. to the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 of 28 April 2004.

The main areas in the field of non-proliferation where the EU is concentrating its efforts are:

- strengthening the international system of non-proliferation,
- pursuing universalisation of multilateral agreements,
- reinforcing strict implementation and compliance with these agreements,
- assisting third countries, and
- cooperating with key partners.

More specifically, the EU has completed or started implementing the following actions in 2005⁸:

⁷ 15656/03 PESC 763 CODUN 48 CONOP 62 COARM 19

⁸ The Council endorsed six-monthly progress reports on the implementation of the EU WMD Strategy. The last report was adopted on 12 December 2005 together with an updated List of Priorities for a coherent implementation of the Strategy (doc. 5279/06).

Support for multilateralism and universalisation of international treaties and agreements

- Démarches have been carried out to promote the universalisation of international agreements such as the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BTWC), the IAEA Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement and the Additional Protocol, the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) and the universalisation of The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation (HCOG).

- On 25 April 2005, the Council adopted Common Position 2005/329/PESC⁹ relating to the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. The Common Position underlines the importance the EU attaches to multilateralism and is based on a balanced approach which takes into account the three pillars of the NPT: non-proliferation, disarmament and peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

- The EU has also continued to carry out démarches to Third Countries in order to promote the submission of reports under UNSC Resolution 1540.

Support for international organisations

- A number of specific activities have been carried out to support organisations competent in the sphere of non-proliferation. On 18 July 2005, the Council adopted Joint Action 2005/574/CFSP¹⁰ on EU support for the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) activities on the enhancement of the protection of sensitive materials, the detection of and response to illicit trafficking under the IAEA's Nuclear Security Programme, and legislative assistance for the implementation of the Additional Protocol. A financial reference amount of EUR 3 914 000 was allocated in this Joint Action for the implementation of three IAEA projects, which are being implemented in the countries of the Balkan region, Central Asia, the Caucasus and the North African / Mediterranean region.

⁹ OJ L 106 of 25.4.2005.

¹⁰ OJ L 193 of 23.7.2005.

- A Joint Action on support for activities by the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemicals Weapons (OPCW) was adopted on 12 December 2005 for a total amount of EUR 1.697.000. This Joint Action carries on the work of a similar Joint Action adopted in November 2004 and aims at supporting the universalisation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) and, in particular, at promoting the accession to that Convention of States not party to it, and its implementation by the party States.

Control of exports of dual-use items

Work to follow up the recommendations of the Peer Review of Member States' export controls, and the 13 December 2004 Council statement, was taken forward as a priority by the Council Working Party on Dual-Use Goods under the Luxembourg and UK Presidencies.

The main achievements in 2005 include:

- Systematic and timely notification of information by Member States to the Commission on national legislation and contact points to ensure transparency and facilitate cooperation;
- Discussion of the conditions attached by Member States to use of the various kinds of export authorisations to ensure that divergent practices are minimised;
- Subject to the results of an impact assessment study, a review of the Regulation as regards dual-use goods in transit or transshipment, in furtherance of the EU's obligations under UNSC Resolution 1540;
- The establishment of a pool of technical experts to assist their colleagues in recognition of dual-use items subject to control;
- Agreement to establish an electronic database to record denial notices made by Member States under the Regulation and in the international export control regimes;

- A comprehensive review of licensing and customs practices regarding control enforcement;
- An examination of the administration of the catch-all control which can be used to control export of non-listed goods which are destined for use in a WMD programme;
- A checklist that Member States can use to benchmark their existing practices on interaction with industry (doc. 15291/05) to achieve a higher level of awareness by EU enterprises of export controls and to ensure their full support and active cooperation in the fight against proliferation of WMD. A wide consultation of industry/exporters on means to improve export controls has been launched.

Control of exports of the means of delivery of WMD

- The Presidency and the Troika continued their efforts to ensure that all the new Member States were included in export control regimes. However, the Plenary Meeting of the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) in September 2005 did not reach agreement on admission of the seven new EU Member States remaining outside the MTCR. The EU will continue its dynamic policy aimed at the admission of the new Member States with new démarches to relevant third countries.

Strengthening physical protection in the nuclear field

- Following the adoption of the Council Directive on the control of high-activity sealed radioactive sources, Member States must ensure that it is implemented rapidly. The EU has encouraged third countries to adopt equivalent provisions.
- The EU Member States, which are all parties to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM), have all participated in a diplomatic conference which has adopted amendments to the Convention aimed at strengthening it. Démarches to third countries to promote early ratification of the amended CPPNM have already been carried out.

- Implementation of the Joint Action adopted by the Council on 22 November 2004, aimed at improving the physical protection at the Bochvar Institute of the Russian Federal Agency for Atomic Energy in Moscow, has not yet started due to some difficulties on the ground.

The importance of non-proliferation in contractual relations between the EU and third countries

- Non-proliferation of WMD occupies an important place in both the EU's contractual relations with third countries (non-proliferation clause) and with regard to action plans in the context of the New Neighbourhood policy.
- The non-proliferation clause was already included in the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement with Tajikistan and in the draft for a Stabilisation and Association Agreement negotiated with Albania, which is still to be finalised. Negotiations with Syria have been concluded and the text of the Association Agreement, which incorporates a non-proliferation clause, was initialled in October 2004. In 2005 negotiations concerning the revision of the Cotonou Agreement were concluded. A non-proliferation clause has been inserted. Negotiations a free-trade agreement with the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council are continuing, and the text of the non-proliferation clause has been finalised for inclusion. A non-proliferation clause has also been proposed in the draft political agreement with Pakistan (in parallel with the Community's agreement). Negotiations on a non-proliferation clause have also been started with Thailand and Singapore and in relation to the interregional association agreement with Mercosur.
- In the context of the European neighbourhood policy, the action plans have been adopted with Israel, Jordan, Moldova, Morocco, the Palestinian Authority, Tunisia and Ukraine. They are the result of consultations conducted with those countries individually by the Commission, in close cooperation with the Presidency and the Secretary-General/High Representative. These action plans include chapters devoted to WMD, the wording of which is based on key elements of the WMD clause.

Cooperation with key partners

- An EU-US declaration on enhancing co-operation in the field of non-proliferation and the fight against terrorism was adopted by the EU-US Summit on 20 June 2005 together with the EU- US Joint Programme of Work on the Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, which identified concrete areas of cooperation. More specifically the EU-US dialogue on verification and compliance was launched on the occasion of the visit by US Senior Officials to Brussels in November 2005.
- At the EU-Japan Summit on 2 May 2005 leaders renewed their commitment to implement the 2004 EU-Japan Joint Declaration on Non-proliferation and Disarmament and to co-ordinate further their activities.
- At the EU-China Summit in September 2005 the two sides, in the framework of their strategic partnership, agreed to continue and enhance dialogue and cooperation on the basis of the joint declaration on non-proliferation and arms control adopted earlier. Furthermore, an ad hoc EU-China workshop on export controls was held in January 2005, which will result in a concrete assistance project in 2006.

2.2. Combating the destabilising accumulation and spread of small arms and light weapons

General Framework

The European Council adopted on 15-16 December 2005 an EU Strategy to combat illicit accumulation and trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons and their ammunition. The EU Strategy offers a comprehensive response to overcoming the threats posed by the illicit accumulation and trafficking of SALW and their ammunition. It underlines the need for consistent EU policies in the areas of security and development, while fully exploiting the means available to the EU at multilateral and regional levels, inside the European Union and through its external relations. The Strategy builds on existing EU policies and actions in this area and puts them under a common heading.

Assistance to third countries

In the framework of EU Joint Action 2002/589/CFSP of 12 July 2002 on the European Union's contribution to combating the destabilising accumulation and spread of small arms and light weapons, the Council adopted on 7 November 2005 a decision with a view to a European Contribution to combating the destabilising accumulation and spread of small arms and light weapons in Cambodia ¹¹. Furthermore on 29 November 2005 the Council adopted a decision concerning the destruction of Small Arms and Light Weapons and their ammunition in Ukraine ¹².

The implementation of the decision adopted by the Council in December 2004 with a view to an EU contribution to ECOWAS in the context of the moratorium on small arms and light weapons started in 2005. During 2005 the programmes to collect and destroy small arms and light weapons in Albania and south-east Europe were completed. The programme in Cambodia will be completed in 2006.

Negotiation of an international instrument on marking and tracing SALW

The EU's efforts in this area were aimed at obtaining a comprehensive international instrument enabling the flow of illicit SALW to be traced effectively, as indicated in the negotiating brief given by the United Nations General Assembly. The final, politically-binding, document adopted in June 2005 by the OEWG did not meet EU expectations for a legally-binding instrument including small arms and light weapons and their ammunition. The EU will continue to work for a legally binding instrument.

3. ARMS EXPORTS

In 2005 EU Member States achieved significant progress with respect to the implementation of the European Union Code of Conduct on Arms Exports.

¹¹ Council Decision 2005/784/CFSP of 7 November 2005

¹² Council Decision 2005/852/CFSP of 29 November 2005

Work on a revised and strengthened Code was completed and agreed at technical level. It is envisaged that the new Code will be adopted in the form of a legally binding Council Common Position.

Transparency was improved via the tables annexed to the Seventh Annual report¹³. The User's Guide¹⁴, which is intended to help Member States apply the Code of Conduct, inter alia with respect to the denial notification and consultation procedure, was expanded to include definitions, best practices for interpretation of criterion 8 and a common template for statistics to be published in national reports.

Member States continued to use their best endeavours to encourage other arms-exporting states (in particular candidate countries and new neighbours) to subscribe to the principles of the Code. Such endeavours included (i) outreach seminars organised, either by Member States bilaterally with the outreached country, or jointly with other Member States, third countries or non-governmental organisations, and (ii) reciprocal visits of national authorities involved with export licensing, in order to discuss and share best practices in the field of export control legislation and its implementation.

Throughout 2005 the COARM Working Party has continued to work closely with the European Parliament¹⁵ and NGOs, drawing on their comments and suggestions.

The October 2005 Council Conclusions¹⁶ expressing support for an international treaty to establish common standards for the global trade in conventional arms is proof of the EU's commitment to responsible arms export policies. EU support for the initiative for an international Treaty on the Arms Trade (ATT) is fully in line with the European Union's Security Strategy, which recognises that the uncontrolled circulation of conventional arms is a negative factor, fuelling numerous conflicts through the world.

¹³ OJ C 328 of 23.12.2005, p. 1.

¹⁴ Doc. 5179/06.

¹⁵ In particular the Committee of Foreign Affairs sub-committee on Security and Defence and rapporteur Raül Romeva i Rueda.

¹⁶ Doc. 12514/05 (Press 241), p. 15.

4. EUROPEAN SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY (ESDP)

4.1 General aspects

In the area of training, Member States agreed on a paper which takes stock of the training of civilian staff for missions in the first five years of ESDP. The Secretariat, in close co-operation with the Commission, was tasked to draw up proposals for strengthening such training.

On 18 July 2005, the Council established the European Security and Defence College (ESDC)¹⁷. The ESDC is organised as a network between national institutes, colleges, academies and institutions within the EU dealing with security and defence policy issues and the European Institute for Security Studies (EU ISS). It provides training in the field of ESDP at the strategic level in order to promote a common understanding of ESDP among civilian and military personnel and to disseminate best practice in relation to various ESDP issues.

Two types of training activity have been conducted: the ESDP High-Level Course and the ESDP Orientation Course.

The contribution of ESDP to the fight against terrorism has been further developed. Based on the conceptual framework established in December 2004, a first report on the implementation of its action points was finalised, covering in particular protection against terrorist attacks, reaction to attacks, consequence management and support to third countries. A seminar by the EU Institute for Security Studies (ISS) on the contribution of ESDP to the fight against terrorism took place in March 2005.

Following the earthquake and tsunami in the Indian Ocean and considering the scope and nature of this natural disaster, the relevant Council bodies took specific measures to help co-ordinate the use of Member States' military assets in liaison with the UN Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). Subsequently, work on the contribution of military assets to natural disaster response was carried forward in the context of follow-up to the EU tsunami action plan.

¹⁷ Council Joint Action 2005/575/CFSP (OJ L 194, 26.7.2005, p. 15).

On 7 November 2005 the Council noted and welcomed measures to implement UNSCR 1325 on women, peace and security in the context of ESDP.

New ground has been broken in the area of Civil-Military Coordination (CMCO). The Aceh Monitoring Mission (AMM) was the first civilian ESDP mission to draw on military support, from the early planning stages and throughout its implementation. In Sudan, the EU Support Action for AMIS II was the first EU civil-military integrated operational engagement undertaken by the EU. The revision of the mandate for EUPM took place in the context of a more integrated assessment of ESDP activities in BiH, and was closely co-ordinated with the EUSR and EUFOR Althea.

Progress has also been made in the field of Security Sector Reform (SSR). The various civilian ESDP missions contributed to SSR by addressing the internal security structures and the rule of law of the countries to which or for which they were deployed (Bosnia and Herzegovina, FYROM, Georgia, Iraq, Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, Palestine and Indonesia).

Cooperation with NATO continued mainly in the framework of the “Berlin plus” arrangements and the Capability Development Mechanism.

4.2. Military aspects

Concerning the development of the European Union's military capabilities, an important step was achieved with the adoption of the Requirements Catalogue 05 (RC 05) in November 2005. The aim of the RC 05, which replaces the Helsinki Headline Goal Catalogue, is to identify the military capabilities required for ESDP purposes as derived from the European Security Strategy and the Headline Goal 2010. In preparation of the Force Catalogue, to be established before the end of 2006, the Headline Goal Questionnaire was developed as the tool for Member States to notify their contributions towards the RC 05.

In the light of the establishment of the European Defence Agency and of the Headline Goal 2010, the European Capability Action Plan (ECAP) has been evaluated and the Project Groups, created under the ECAP to address identified shortfalls, have been reviewed. In May 2005 the Council approved the migration of 11 ECAP Projects Groups to a more integrated process coordinated by the European Defence Agency. The remaining ECAP Project Groups will pursue their work following the ECAP principles and under guidance from the EU Military Committee.

Work continued on developing the EU's rapid response capabilities, the cornerstone of which are the battle groups. Initial operational capability for the battle groups - one battle group should be permanently available - has been achieved for the period 2005-2006. The second Battle Group Co-ordination Conference (8 November 2005) resulted in commitments ensuring that from January 2007, the EU will have the full operational capability to undertake two battle group size rapid response operations, including the ability to launch two such operations nearly simultaneously. Preliminary indications have already been provided on the availability of battle groups beyond 2008.

An accelerated decision-making and planning process for EU rapid response operations, in particular operations involving battle groups, was the subject of a report by the SG/HR submitted in March 2005. The SG/HR's report proposed measures to ensure that decision-making and planning can be completed in five days - from approval of the crisis management concept by the Council to the decision to launch the operation. In May 2005 the Council approved the recommendations made on that basis by the Political and Security Committee (PSC).

The EU continued to strengthen its readiness for crisis situations by organising exercises. An EU Military Exercise 2005 (MILEX 05) was conducted from 22 November to 1 December 2005. The exercise concentrated on the interaction between an EU Operation Headquarters (OHQ) in Paris, and an EU Force Headquarters (FHQ) in Ulm, in the context of an autonomous EU-led military operation. Some 450 "players" and supporting personnel took part in this important military activity which constituted a major step forward in the EUMS' involvement in the planning and conduct of large-scale EU crisis management exercises. No troops were deployed.

Missions/operations

In Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), the EU continued **Operation ALTHEA**, launched on 2 December 2004 under UN Security Council mandate (UNSCR 1575 of 22 November 2004). During 2005, EUFOR maintained a stable and secure environment in BiH, through providing continued compliance with the GFAP, achieving core tasks in the OHR's Mission Implementation Plan and supporting the fight against organised crime, thus creating the conditions for BiH to make progress in several important areas.. From the outset, EUFOR established a close cooperation with the other EU actors present in BiH.

In accordance with the Joint Action¹⁸, Operation ALTHEA was reviewed at six-monthly intervals. Based on the last review, the Council confirmed in November 2005 that force levels should remain broadly unchanged in 2006. The current EUFOR force level is approximately 6200. 22 Member States and 11 third states contribute to Operation ALTHEA. The operation is conducted with recourse to NATO common assets and capabilities ("Berlin plus").

General Reith is the Operation Commander. Since December 2005, General Chiarini is the Force Commander, replacing General Leakey¹⁹.

On 8 June 2005, the EU launched a mission in the **Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) to support security sector reform: EUSEC RD Congo**^{20 21}. The mission has the aim of contributing to a successful integration of the army in the DRC and, in concrete terms, of providing the Congolese authorities responsible for security with advice and assistance while taking care to promote policies compatible with human rights and international humanitarian law, democratic standards and the principles of good governance, transparency and respect for the rule of law.

¹⁸ Council Joint Action 2004/570/CFSP (OJ L 252, 28.7.2004, p. 10).

¹⁹ Political and Security Committee Decision BiH/6/2005 (OJ L 173, 6.7.2005, p. 14).

²⁰ Council Joint Action 2005/355/CFSP (OJ L 112, 3.5.2005, p. 20).

²¹ See also under "General aspects", 3rd para.

The mission has seen encouraging results in terms of disbanding armed factions and demobilisation. The financial reference amount for the mission is set at 1.600.000 EUR, to be financed from the CFSP budget.

The tasks of this mission were subsequently extended by the Council on 1 December 2005 to comprise a technical assistance project on improving the chain of payments of the Ministry of Defence in the DRC²². The financial reference amount to be financed from the CFSP budget for the chain of payments project is set at 940.000 EUR (from 15 February 2006). General Joana is the Head of Mission.

On 18 July 2005, the Council decided on an **EU civilian-military supporting action to the African Union (AU) mission in the Darfur region of Sudan (AMIS)** to support the AU and its political, military and police efforts to address the crisis in that region, thereby respecting and supporting the principle of African ownership²³.

The EU supporting action includes a civilian and a military component. The reference amount for the civilian component for a six-month period was set at 2.120.000 EUR, to be financed from the CFSP budget. The reference amount for the common costs of the military component was set at 1.970.000 EUR (also for a period of six months), to be financed in accordance with Article 28 (3) of the Treaty on European Union.

According to the Joint Action, the Council should, no later than 31 December 2005, evaluate whether the supporting action should be continued. On 7 November 2005, the Council decided to extend the supporting action until mid-2006. Subsequently, on 21 November 2005, the Council adopted a Decision to extend the financing of the civilian component from the CFSP budget until 28 July 2006 (reference amount for the civilian component is set at 2.200.000 EUR)²⁴.

²² Council Joint Action 2005/868/CFSP (OJ L 318, 6.12.2005, p. 29).

²³ Council Joint Action 2005/557/CFSP (OJ L 188, 20.7.2005, p. 46).

²⁴ Council Decision 2005/806/CFSP (OJ L 303, 22.11.2005, p. 60).

4.3. Civilian Crisis Management Missions

EU Police Mission (EUPM) in Bosnia Herzegovina (BiH)

The Western Balkans was the first area of commitment for civilian ESDP. The European Union Police Mission (EUPM) in Bosnia Herzegovina (BiH), which was the first civilian ESDP mission, continued to function throughout 2005 until the expiry of its original 3-year mandate ²⁵. During 2005, EUPM focused on the four strategic priorities: Institution and capacity building at management level; combating organised crime and corruption; developing financial viability and sustainability; and promoting police independence and accountability. Notable achievements include the transformation of the State Investigations and Protection Agency (SIPA) into an operational police agency with enhanced powers to fight major and organised crime; the development of other state-level institutions such as the Ministry of Security and the State Border Service; and progress towards police reform under clear local ownership. Also in 2005, the Mission continued to develop and implement its seven core programmes. Their emphasis has been to support the key areas of expertise and capability necessary to elevate policing in BiH to best European practices, in particular to achieve policing which is free from inappropriate political interference. At the end of the last reporting period, EUPM numbered 801 staff (410 seconded police officers, 61 international civilians and 330 national staff). Towards the end of 2005, the Mission gradually reduced staffing levels, in anticipation of a refocused mandate (from 1 January 2006). All 25 European Union Member States, together with nine non-EU contributing states, participated in the Mission in 2005.

The Council decided on 24 November 2005 to continue EUPM with an adjusted size and refocused mandate for a further two years until 31 December 2007 ²⁶.

Brigadier-General Vincenzo Coppola was appointed Head of Mission/Police Commissioner from 1 January 2006 ²⁷. He took over from Commissioner Kevin Carty (Ireland) who was Head of Mission from March 2004 until December 2005.

²⁵ Council Joint Action 2005/81/CFSP of 31 January 2005.

²⁶ Council Joint Action 2005/824/CFSP of 24 November 2005, OJ L 307, 25.11.2005, p. 55.

²⁷ Political and Security Committee Decision EUPM/1/2005 of 25 November 2005, OJ L 335, 21.12.2005, p. 58.

EU Police Mission in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (EUPOL PROXIMA)

In FYROM, the EU Police Mission in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, EUPOL PROXIMA, continued monitoring and mentoring police on priority issues including Border Police, Public Peace and Order and Accountability and the Fight against Corruption and Organised Crime until the end of its mandate on 15 December 2005. During this second year of operation, Proxima police experts supervised and advised police forces in the host country, with a focus on training senior and medium-level officials under three programmes: law and order, organised crime and border police. The EU reviewed the mission in light of this progress, the improved security situation, and the steps taken towards implementing the Stabilisation and Association Agreement. The EU decided that the mission had successfully completed its mandate and should close as planned on 15 December 2005. To ensure a smooth transition between the end of EUPOL PROXIMA and the start of the EC field level project, the EU decided to establish from 15 December 2005²⁸ a team of approximately 30 EU police advisors (EU PAT) to provide further support to the development of an efficient and professional police service based on European standards of policing. Under the leadership of Head of Mission Jürgen Scholz²⁹, this team will continue to work for a period of six months.

EUJUST THEMIS in Georgia

The first ESDP "rule of law" mission, EUJUST THEMIS in Georgia, launched on 15 July 2004, continued to work until the expiry of its mandate on 14 July 2005. Under the leadership of the Head of Mission, Ms Sylvie Pantz, EUJUST THEMIS worked closely with the Georgian authorities to work out a strategy for the reform of the criminal justice system. Certain delays occurred, but at the end of the mission's mandate, President Saakashvili adopted a decree on 7 July 2005 approving the Reform Strategy for the Criminal Justice System, which had been developed with the help of EUJUST THEMIS. The Georgian Minister of Justice had in early June already written to SG/HR Solana to express his appreciation for the work that the EU experts had carried out.

²⁸ Council Joint Action 2005/826/CFSP of 24 November 2005, OJ L 307, 25.11.2005, p. 61.

²⁹ Political and Security Committee Decision EUPAT/1/2005 of 7 December 2005, OJ L 346, 29.12.2005, p. 46.

The PSC on 7 June 2005 agreed that two EU Rule of Law experts would be required to stay on until 28 February 2006 as part of an Enhanced Support Team for the EUSR for the South Caucasus, to prepare for and monitor the implementation of the Reform Strategy, in close collaboration with the European Commission.

EUPOL Kinshasa

EUPOL Kinshasa, which is the first civilian crisis management mission in Africa, was officially launched on 12 April 2005.³⁰ Consisting of 29 people, the objective of this ESDP police mission is to monitor, mentor and advise the Integrated Police Unit (IPU) in Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The establishment of the IPU in Kinshasa was also supported by the EU with contributions from the European Development Fund (EDF) and Member States. The task of the IPU is to provide protection for the institutions and main Transitional Government authorities, and to assist in public security in the capital during the general elections which are expected to take place in the DRC in 2006. EUPOL Kinshasa is a non-executive mission. It maintains close contact with the other players in the field, mainly MONUC. In view of the postponement of the Presidential elections in DRC, which must take place before June 2006 at the latest, the EU reviewed the Mission at the end of 2005 and decided to extend EUPOL Kinshasa's mandate³¹ and the mandate of the Head of Mission, Superintendent Adilio Ruivo Custodio.³² The current mandate will expire on 30 April 2006 and a renewal until the end of the year is expected to be made in spring 2006.

Integrated Rule of Law Mission for Iraq (EUJUST LEX)

On 1 July 2005, upon invitation of the Iraqi Government, the EU launched an Integrated Rule of Law Mission for Iraq, EUJUST LEX, under the scope of ESDP³³. The aims of EUJUST LEX are:

- a. to address the urgent needs in the Iraqi criminal justice system through providing training for high and mid-level officials in senior management and criminal investigation;

³⁰ Council Joint Action 2004/847/CFSP of 9 December 2004, OJ L 367, 14.12.2004, p. 30.

³¹ Joint Action 2005/822/2005 of 21 November 2005, OJ L 305, 24.11.2005, p. 44.

³² Political and Security Committee Decision EUPOL KINSHASA/2/2005, OJ L 335, 21.12.2005, p. 57.

³³ Joint Action 2005/190/CFSP of 7 March 2005, OJ L 62, 9.3.2005, p. 37.

- b. to promote closer collaboration between the different actors across the Iraqi criminal justice system and strengthen the management capacity of senior and high-potential officials primarily from the police, judiciary and penitentiary and improve skills and procedures in criminal investigation in full respect for the rule of law and human rights.

The objective is to train up to 770 officials. The training activities take place in the EU. Depending on developments in the security conditions in Iraq and on the availability of appropriate infrastructure, the Council will examine the possibility of training within Iraq. Up to the end of 2005, almost 300 Iraqi senior officials from the police, the judiciary and the penitentiary were trained in an integrated fashion in EU Member States. The Mission has established a Liaison Office in Baghdad in order to ensure close co-ordination with Iraqi counterparts, the EU Member States and the International Community in Iraq. The EU takes an active part in the Rule-of-Law Sector Working Group in Baghdad. Mr Stephen White is the Head of Mission of EUJUST LEX³⁴. In addition to funding from the EU budget, EU Member States contribute with training courses and trainers, as well as financial means.

Aceh Monitoring Mission (AMM)

On 9 September 2005, the Council adopted Joint Action 2005/643/CFSP³⁵ and decided that the European Union, together with five ASEAN Member States - Brunei, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand, as well as Norway and Switzerland, should deploy a monitoring mission in Aceh (Indonesia) - the Aceh Monitoring Mission (AMM). The mission was designed to monitor the implementation of the Helsinki Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by the Government of Indonesia (GoI) and the Free Aceh Movement (GAM) on 15 August 2005. The AMM became operational on 15 September 2005, the date on which the decommissioning of GAM armaments and the relocation of non-organic military and police forces began.

³⁴ Political and Security Committee Decision EUJSUT LEX/1/2005 of 8 March 2005, OJ L 72, 18.3.2005, p. 29.

³⁵ Joint Action 2005/643/CFSP of 9 September 2005, OJ L 234, 10.9.2005, P; 13.

Given that both the GoI and the GAM had indicated that they would like to see a monitoring presence in Aceh immediately after the signature of the MoU, an initial monitoring presence (IMP) was deployed on 15 August 2005. The IMP, which consisted of 80 monitors from EU and ASEAN countries, covered the period between the signing of the MoU (15 August 2005) and the full deployment of the AMM (15 September 2005). The IMP provided an early demonstration of the EU and ASEAN contributing countries' commitment to monitoring the peace process while contributing to confidence-building amongst the population of Aceh during the early stage of the implementation of the MoU. The IMP was entirely financed by contributing EU Member States and third states.

The AMM carried out the following tasks:

- monitoring the demobilisation of GAM and monitoring and assisting with the decommissioning and destruction of its weapons, ammunition and explosives;
- monitoring the re-location of non-organic military forces and non-organic police troops;
- monitoring the reintegration of active GAM members;
- monitoring the human rights situation and providing assistance in this field in the context of the tasks set out in the above points;
- monitoring the process of legislation change;
- ruling on disputed amnesty cases;
- dealing with complaints and alleged violations of the MoU;
- establishing and maintaining liaison and good cooperation with the parties.

The costs of the mission are financed from the EU budget (EUR 9 million) and by contributions from EU Member States and participating countries (EUR 6 million).

The AMM initially numbered some 226 international unarmed personnel, of which 130 were from EU Member States as well as Norway and Switzerland, and 96 from the five participating ASEAN countries. The mission, whose headquarters are in Banda Aceh, established a monitoring capability with 11 geographically distributed District Offices and 4 mobile decommissioning teams. It was envisaged to reduce AMM personnel after the completion of decommissioning and troop withdrawal on 31 December 2005.

The Head of Mission (HoM), Mr. Pieter Feith, seconded from the EU Council Secretariat, is supported by three deputies, two from the EU and one from ASEAN ³⁶.

The AMM has contributed significantly to the implementation of the Helsinki Memorandum of Understanding (MoU):

- Levels of stability and confidence have risen significantly in the Aceh province.
- GAM decommissioning and demobilisation as well as TNI and Police withdrawals of non-organic forces have been completed.
- The human rights situation in Aceh has improved and work on obtaining Parliamentary approval of the Law on Governing Aceh (LOGA) and resolving disputed amnesty cases has been set in train.

The peaceful settlement of the Aceh conflict has created a more conducive environment for the effective rebuilding of Aceh after the tsunami disaster, including with full local participation.

EU Police Mission for the Palestinian Territories (EUPOL COPPS)

The EU agreed at the General Affairs Council on 7 November 2005 to establish an EU Police Mission for the Palestinian Territories (EUPOL COPPS), building on the work of the EU Coordination Office for Palestinian Policing Support (EU COPPS). The Joint Action establishing EUPOL COPPS was adopted on 14 November 2005³⁷, providing for the launch of EUPOL COPPS on 1 January 2006 under the leadership of Head of Mission Jonathan McIvor.³⁸ This mission aims to support the Palestinian Authority in establishing sustainable and effective policing arrangements. EUPOL COPPS has a three-year mandate to assist in the implementation of the Palestinian Civil Police Development Plan, advise and mentor senior members of the Palestinian Civil Police and criminal justice system, and to co-ordinate EU and, where requested, international assistance to the Palestinian civil police. EUPOL COPPS will liaise with EU BAM Rafah. It will also act in co-operation with the European Community's institution-building programmes as well as other international efforts in the security sector, including criminal justice reform.

³⁶ Joint Action 2005/643/CFSP of 9 September 2005, Article 5.1.

³⁷ Joint Action 2005/797/CFSP of 14 November 2005, OJ L 300, 17.11.2005, p. 65.

³⁸ Political and Security Committee Decision EUPOL COPPS/1/2005 of 16 November 2005, OJ L 312, 29.11.2005, p. 57.

EU Border Assistance Mission (EU BAM Rafah)

Following the "Agreement on Movement and Access" reached between the Government of Israel (GoI) and the Palestinian Authorities (PA) on 15 November 2005, and following invitations from the PA and GoI on 21 November 2005, the EU decided to establish a 74-strong EU Border Assistance Mission (EU BAM Rafah) at the Rafah Crossing Point on the Gaza-Egypt Border. The Joint Action was adopted on 25 November 2005³⁹ with a financial reference amount of EUR 1 696 659 for 2005 and EUR 5 903 341 for 2006. The Head of Mission is Major General Pietro Pistolese⁴⁰. Its main task is to provide the Third Party role provided for in the GoI-PA Agreement, mainly to actively monitor, verify and evaluate the PA's performance with regard to the implementation of the Framework, Security and Customs Agreement concluded between the Parties on the operation of the Rafah Terminal. The Mission has no substitution functions. The Mission was successfully launched on 25 November 2005 when the Border Crossing Point was re-opened. Its mandate runs initially for 12 months.

Civilian Headline Goal 2008 (CHG)

The Civilian Headline Goal 2008 (CHG) states the ambitions and tasks involved in the development of EU civilian crisis management and provides for a comprehensive planning process for civilian capabilities. This process started in early 2005 and has been conducted by the General Secretariat of the Council with the support of Member States' experts. It was overseen by the Political and Security Committee (PSC), supported by the Committee for Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management (CIVCOM).

In the first semester of 2005, the General Secretariat established a number of strategic planning assumptions and five illustrative scenarios in line with the CHG ambitions. These five scenarios represent a non-exhaustive selection of possible situations calling for civilian crisis management action under ESDP.

³⁹ Joint Action 2005/889/CFSP of 12 December 2005, OJ L 327, 14.12.2005, p. 28.

⁴⁰ Joint Action 2005/889/CFSP of 12 December 2005, Article 5.1.

On the basis of these scenarios the General Secretariat defined focused options for civilian ESDP missions, including key mission tasks across the six priority areas of civilian crisis management under ESDP,⁴¹ as well as a list of capabilities required to address these tasks.

In the second semester of 2005, the General Secretariat sent out a Questionnaire based on the list of required capabilities, asking Member States to indicate personnel that could be made available. The comparison of Member States' replies with the capabilities required allowed the General Secretariat to formulate, with the support of Member States' experts, an initial evaluation of civilian capability shortfalls.

In the framework of the CHG 2008, the basic document (Multifunctional Civilian Crisis Management Resources in an integrated format: Civilian Response Teams) and the Generic Terms of Reference of the Civilian Response Teams have been adopted during the course of 2005.

Third States

Agreements with Bulgaria⁴², Iceland⁴³, Ukraine⁴⁴ and Canada⁴⁵ were concluded on establishing a framework for the participation of Bulgaria, Iceland, Ukraine and Canada respectively in European Union crisis management operations. These so-called framework participation agreements set out the general legal and financial provisions for the participation of a given third State in EU civilian and military crisis management operations.

On 23 May 2005, the Council approved a model agreement on the status of a European Union Civilian Crisis Management Mission in a Host State ("model SOMA"). In the event of future EU civilian crisis management operations, this model agreement will be taken as the basis for negotiating the specific status of mission agreements (SOMAs) with host states. The model will enable a quicker conclusion of specific SOMAs and thus help improve the EU's rapid reaction capability.

⁴¹ as defined by the European Council in Feira in June 2000 (Police, Rule of Law, Civilian Administration, Civil Protection) and subsequently by the Council in November 2004 (Monitoring and Support to EU Special Representatives' Offices).

⁴² OJ L 46, 17.2.2005, p. 50.

⁴³ OJ L 67, 14.3.2005, p. 2.

⁴⁴ OJ L 182, 13.7.2005, p. 29.

⁴⁵ OJ L 315, 1.12.2005, p. 21.

For the first time, Committees of Contributors were established in 2005 for civilian crisis management missions, underlining the importance attached by the EU to participation by third states in civilian ESDP. Decisions taken in February and March 2005 saw the creation of Committees of Contributors for EUPM⁴⁶ and for EUPOL PROXIMA⁴⁷.

Moreover, ESDP-related dialogue and co-operation with a number of third countries, in particular Canada, Russia and Ukraine and - in the framework of the Euro-Med partnership - with the Mediterranean partners, were strengthened and broadened.

4.4. European Defence Agency

The European Defence Agency (EDA) achieved its initial operational capacity at the beginning of 2005 and was fully operational by early summer of that year.

Although 2005 was the year in which it was established, the Agency nonetheless achieved some important results, notably with regard to the creation of an internationally competitive European Defence Equipment Market, an essential prerequisite for strengthening the European defence technological and industrial base. On 21 November 2005, the EDA Steering Board in Defence Ministers formation decided to establish a voluntary, non-binding intergovernmental regime aimed at encouraging competition in defence procurement, on a reciprocal basis between those subscribing. The regime will be based on a voluntary Code of Conduct on defence procurement (for contracts above a threshold of 1 million EUR) and will come into force on 1 July 2006 between all participating Member States, unless they decide - by latest 30 April 2006 - not to join the regime.

The Agency has established systematic processes for tackling capability shortfalls and for completing the end-to-end process for capability development required by ESDP, and has started working on the flagship projects identified in its 2005 work programme.

⁴⁶ Joint Action 2005/143/CFSP of 17 February 2005, OJ L 48, 19.02.2005, p. 46 and Political and Security Committee Decision EUPM/1/2005 of 4 March 2005, OJ L 72, 18.03.2005, p.23.

⁴⁷ Joint Action 2005/142/CFSP of 17 February 2005, OJ L 48, 19.02.2005, p.45 and Political and Security Committee Decision PROXIMA/3/2005 of 4 March 2005, OJ L 72, 18.03.2005, p.25.

Under the Agency's work programme for 2006, established within the guidelines adopted by the Council, the EDA will have to play an essential role in tackling military capability shortfalls. Building on the flagship projects identified in 2005, there is now a need for launching concrete proposals for ad hoc collaborative projects, especially in the area of Research and Technology. In December 2005, the European Council noted the following priority areas for the Agency's activities: increasing levels of defence research spending, finding opportunities for research collaboration and tackling capability gaps - with command, control and communication, strategic lift and air-to-air refuelling as the "top priorities".

The EDA budget for 2006 amounts to 22.3 million EUR, of which 5 million EUR is for the Agency's operational budget. The Council postponed a decision on a three-year financial framework by one year until autumn 2006.

4.5. Civilian/Military Cell and Operations Centre developments

The Civil-Military Cell (Civ/Mil Cell) was established in the second semester of 2005 and the Cell's two units, the Strategic Planning Branch and the Operations Centre (OpsCentre) Permanent Staff, took up their work.

In accordance with its terms of reference, the Civil/Mil Cell has already been participating fully in Secretariat crisis management planning work, as well as work on concepts and doctrine. The design and implementation of a training programme, the drafting of standard operating procedures and the installation of the communications and information systems are some of the issues being taken forward in the context of EU OPsCentre capabilities development.

4.6. ESDP support for peace and security in Africa

The police mission EUPOL Kinshasa was launched on 30 April 2005. Its objective is to monitor, mentor and advise the Integrated Police Unit (IPU) in Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. EUSEC RD Congo was launched on 8 June 2005.

This mission provides advice and assistance in security sector reform in the DR Congo with the aim of contributing to a successful integration of the Congolese army. Building on earlier efforts, the Council agreed on 18 July 2005 an EU civilian/military supporting action to the AU mission in Darfur, which is providing the AU with assistance across a wide range of issues.

The revised Common Position concerning conflict prevention, management and resolution in Africa of 12 April 2005⁴⁸ makes reference to the ESDP Action Plan for Africa and stresses the complementary character of actions in the framework of CFSP (including through ESDP support), the Peace Facility for Africa, Community instruments and bilateral actions by Member States. The Common Position further identifies the African Union and the African sub-regional organisations as the central actors in the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts in Africa.

The "ESDP Support to Peace and Security in Africa: Information Strategy" was approved by the PSC on 7 June 2005.⁴⁹

The General Secretariat of the Council (GSC) has participated in several AU/IGAD⁵⁰ meetings in connection with a Peace Support mission to Somalia (IGASOM) and in July 2005 took part in a joint Council/Commission visit to Nairobi to assess the preparation of the mission. The GSC participated in a joint EU/UN assessment mission to the AU Headquarters in May 2005 to assist in strengthening the AU situation centre. The GSC participated in a visit by a UK Security Sector Development Advisory Team to Guinea-Bissau, organised under the auspices of the UN Special Representative to the country. The GSC, upon request of the Commission, participated in a mission to the Central African Republic in May 2005 to assess continued Peace Facility funding of the Multinational Forces by the Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa.

The PSC agreed on 25 October 2005 that the EU should take the lead partner role in the African Standby Force Workshops in Doctrine and Standard Operating Procedures. The workshops are taking place in the course of 2006.

⁴⁸ Council Common Position 2005/304/CFSP of 12 April 2005

⁴⁹ Doc 9741/05 of 3 June 2005

⁵⁰ Intergovernmental Authority for Development

In 2005, considerable progress was made in the areas set out in the Action Plan for ESDP Support to Peace and Security in Africa, approved by the Council in November 2004.

In addition to the crisis management activities launched under the European Security and Defence Policy in DRC and Sudan, the EU has worked to implement the Action Plan on ESDP Support to Peace and Security in Africa on long-term capacity-building issues. The EU has provided a liaison officer to the AU in Addis Ababa. Work is also being undertaken on the double-hatting of the French liaison officer in ECOWAS as an EU officer. The EU is also actively supporting the African Union Workshops on the development of the African Stand-by Force.

As a follow-up to the European Security Strategy and to the Action Plan for ESDP Support to Peace and Security in Africa, in November 2005 the Council approved Council Conclusions on ESDP. These Conclusions deal, inter alia, with security sector reform (SSR), which is a key sector for ESDP Support to Africa. The Council noted that the Political and Security Committee has approved an EU Concept for ESDP Support to SSR, which covers both military and civilian aspects. EU Support to SSR will be based on democratic norms and internationally accepted human rights principles and the rule of law, and where applicable, international humanitarian law; respect for local ownership; and coherence with other areas of external action.

5. EUROPEAN UNION SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVES (EUSRs)

EUSR in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

In February⁵¹ and July⁵², the Council extended the mandate of Michael Sahlin as European Union Special Representative for the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (financial reference amounts: EUR 500 000 and EUR 195 000 respectively). In October, the Council appointed Erwan Fouéré as EUSR for the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia until 28 February 2006 (financial reference amount: EUR 215 000).⁵³

⁵¹ Joint Action 2005/98/CFSP of 2 February 2005

⁵² Joint Action 2005/589/CFSP, OJ L 199, 29.7.2005, p. 103

⁵³ Joint Action 2005/724/CFSP, OJ L 272, 18.10.2005, p 26

Erwan Fouéré was simultaneously appointed Head of the Commission Delegation in Skopje by a Commission decision.

The main activities of the EUSR throughout 2005 have been focused on continuing to promote the implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement, contributing to general political stability and inter-ethnic dialogue. In this context, particular attention has been given to the decentralisation process, that formally started on 1 July, and the adoption of the legislation on community symbols. The EUSR has furthermore been conducting political monitoring of European Union Police Mission Proxima until its termination in December 2005

EUSR in Bosnia and Herzegovina

On 2 February 2005, the Council adopted Joint Action 2005/97/CFSP⁵⁴ on the mandate of Lord Ashdown, who was to continue to exercise his functions as the European Union Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) until 31 August 2005. On 28 July 2005, the Council further extended the mandate of Lord Ashdown as EUSR in BiH until 28 February 2006 (2005/583/CFSP)⁵⁵. In order to reinforce EUSR's role in promoting overall EU coordination of EU efforts in tackling organised crime and providing support for a more effective BiH criminal justice/police interface, the Council amended the mandate of the EUSR in BiH on 24 November 2005 (2005/825/CFSP and its Corrigenda)⁵⁶.

Lord Ashdown was present at the European Parliament's public hearing on the 'Dayton Agreement – Ten years after', which was held on 12 October 2005 and organised by the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Delegation for relations with the countries of South-East Europe.

⁵⁴ OJ L 31/71 of 4.2.2005.

⁵⁵ OJ L 199 of 29.7.2005.

⁵⁶ OJ L 307/59 of 25/11.2005; and OJ L 349/35 of 31.12.2005.

EUSR for Moldova

In line with the European Security Strategy and in order to redouble its efforts to contribute to the solution of the Transnistrian conflict, the Council appointed an EU Special Representative for Moldova on 23 March⁵⁷. His mandate was subsequently extended until 28 February 2006⁵⁸. The EUSR, Ambassador Adriaan Jacobovits de Szeged, visits Moldova regularly and has frequent contacts with all other major players, including Russia, Ukraine and the OSCE. In late August, he headed the joint Council Secretariat - Commission Fact Finding Mission, which visited Moldova and Ukraine to evaluate the political and technical feasibility of an EU border engagement on the common border between Ukraine and Moldova and led to the establishment of the EU Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EU BAM Moldova/Ukraine), funded under the Rapid Reaction Mechanism. His mandate was further amended on 7 November 2005⁵⁹. He is also engaged with civil society on both sides of the river Nistru and supports the building of preconditions for the democratisation of Transnistria and the further democratic development of the rest of Moldova.

The EUSR addressed the Moldovan Delegation of the European Parliament and remains in touch with the Head of the Moldovan Delegation.

Since October, when the EU and the US were included as observers, the EUSR has represented the EU in the Transnistria settlement talks (5+2 Meetings).

EUSR for the South Caucasus

The EU Special Representative for the South Caucasus, Ambassador Heikki Talvitie, has a political mandate to contribute to conflict prevention and assist with conflict settlement⁶⁰. During 2005, the EUSR for the South Caucasus regularly visited Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia. These visits transformed the quality and quantity of the EU's political dialogue with those countries.

⁵⁷ Joint Action 2005/265/CFSP, OJ L 81, p. 50.

⁵⁸ Joint Action 2005/584/CFSP, OJ L 199, p. 95

⁵⁹ Joint Action 2005/776/CFSP of 7 November 2005.

⁶⁰ Joint Action 2005/100/CFSP of 2 February 2005 and 2005/582/CFSP of 28 July 2005.

EUSR Talvitie has paid particular attention to the conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh and to the situation in Georgia, including the internal conflicts in South Ossetia and Abkhazia. The EUSR followed very closely the Parliamentary elections in Azerbaijan in November 2005. Ambassador Talvitie met regularly with the political leadership of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia and with the Council of Europe, OSCE, Russia, Turkey and the United States.

Following the closure of the OSCE Border Monitoring Operation in Georgia, the Team of the EUSR was reinforced by initially three, and then ten border experts. Furthermore the EUSR Team was also reinforced by two of the Rule of Law experts from EUJUST THEMIS, after the closing down of that EU Rule of Law Operation.

The mandate of the current EUSR for the South Caucasus, Ambassador Heikki Talvitie, will come to an end on 28 February 2006.

EUSR for the Middle East peace process

Focus in 2005 was on Israel's withdrawal from Gaza and parts of the northern West Bank and on the Palestinian elections (Presidential elections on 9 January 2005, four rounds of municipal elections and the preparation for the legislative elections on 25 January 2006). The domestic Israeli political scene was moreover characterized by the split within the Likud, the creation of the Kadima party and since the beginning of 2006 the illness of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon.

The Israeli withdrawal went smoothly, although accompanied by massive protests from the settler movement. All settlements in Gaza and four in the northern West Bank were evacuated and houses razed as part of the disengagement. Mr. James Wolfensohn was appointed Quartet Special Envoy for disengagement and Palestinian economic revival. His efforts led to the 'Agreement on Movement and Access' and the 'Agreed Principles on Rafah Crossing', which laid the basis for the deployment of the EU BAM Rafah ESDP-mission and the opening of the Rafah Crossing Point on 25 November 2005. The agreements were brokered by HR/SG Solana and US Secretary of State Rice.

The EU Coordinating Office for Palestinian Police Support (EU COPPS) became operational from mid-January 2005. EU COPPS built up a solid organization and was recognized as the most active contributor to Palestinian security sector reform and institution-building. The Council decided in November to expand EU COPPS into an ESDP-mission, EUPOL COPPS, as from 1 January 2006.

The EUSR, Mr Marc Otte, and members of his team have assured a permanent presence on the ground. They have supported the build-up of the EU COPPS and EU BAM missions and followed the withdrawal process, the preparation for and holding of the four rounds of Palestinian local elections as well as the run-up to and the holding of the Presidential and PLC elections.

2005 was also characterized by the continued consolidation and expansion of Israeli settlements in the West Bank, including in and around East Jerusalem, construction of the separation barrier and a strengthened Israeli grip on the Jordan Valley. The EUSR followed these developments closely.

The EUSR interacts and coordinates with international actors, notably within the Quartet, on the ground and elsewhere. Both Quartet Envoys and Principals met regularly in the course of the year. Close contact was maintained with regional partners and organisations, such as the League of Arab States. Contacts with the parties have further intensified as a result of the invitations by the Government of Israel and the Palestinian Authority to the EU to play a third-party role at the Rafah crossing-point. A good working relationship has been maintained and regular meetings held with Israeli and Palestinian government representatives, and dialogues with representatives of civil society and the private sector have taken place .

In July the mandate of EUSR Marc Otte was extended until 28 February 2006. ⁶¹

The financial reference amounts of the Council Joint Actions, financed from the CFSP budget:

1/3/05-31/8/05 Joint Action 2005/99/CFSP 560.000,00 €

1/9/05-28/2/06 Joint Action 2005/587/CFSP 560.000,00 €

⁶¹ Joint Action 2005/587/CFSP, OJ L 199, 29.7.2005, p. 99

EUSR for the African Great Lakes Region

The peace process in the DRC remained one of the priorities for EUSR Aldo Ajello during the year 2005. Most of the activities concerned the preparations for the elections, including the relevant legislation, security sector reform (SSR) with the integration of the army, and disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR) of ex-combatants. The EUSR contributed intensively to the development of two EU/CFSP actions in the area of SSR (monitoring and mentoring mission EUPOL Kinshasa for the IPU police, launched in April 2005, secondly the SSR advisory mission "EUSEC DR Congo", launched in June 2005, and most recently the project for the reform of the administrative structure of the army).

The EUSR remained involved in the peace process in Burundi, which led to the successful end of the transition period, marked by the peaceful elections and finally the inauguration of the new President in August 2005. In Rwanda the EUSR focused primarily on the regional context of improving the relations between Rwanda and the DRC. The key issue in this regard was the disarmament and return to Rwanda of the FDLR. The EUSR continued to closely follow and support the work of the International Conference on the GLR. On 7 December the EUSR participated at a public hearing on the "Prospects for Peace in the Great Lakes Region", organised by the Parliament's Group ALDE.

In July the mandate of EUSR Ajello was extended until 28 February 2006.⁶²

EUSR for Sudan

On 18 July 2005, the Council appointed Mr Pekka Haavisto as Special Representative of the European Union for Sudan⁶³. Financial reference amount EUR 675 000). His mandate runs until 17 July 2006.⁶⁴

⁶² Joint Action 2005/586/CFSP, OJ L 199, 29.7.2005, p. 97

⁶³ Joint Action 2005/556/CFSP of 18 July 2005, OJ L 188, 20.07.2005, p.43.

⁶⁴ Joint Action 2005/805/CFSP, OJ L 303, 22.11.2005, p. 59

In executing his mandate, the work of the EUSR has focussed on three key areas: the implementation of the comprehensive peace agreement (CPA) in Sudan, the Darfur peace talks in Abuja and monitoring the EU's civil-military supporting action to the African Union (AU) Mission in Darfur (AMIS).

As regards the implementation of the CPA, the EUSR has maintained frequent contacts with the relevant Sudanese and international key actors in order to encourage and support the timely implementation of the various elements of the CPA. He is participating in the work of the Assessment and Evaluation Commission (AEC), assisted by the local EU Presidency and the Commission Delegation in the Khartoum.

With respect to the Darfur peace talks in Abuja, Nigeria, the EUSR has regularly attended the talks and kept in close contact with the Chief Mediator of the AU. From the beginning of the seventh round of the talks on 24 November, a member of the EUSR's team (with intermediate support from the Council General Secretariat) has been permanently present during the talks.

As regards the third aspect of the EUSR's mandate, namely to ensure coordination and coherence of the EU's contribution to AMIS, the EUSR's office in Addis Ababa, staffed with Military and Police Advisors and a Political Advisor, supported the Council General Secretariat and the Commission in the implementation and coordination of the EU supporting action⁶⁵. The EUSR was also in regular contact with high officials of the AU in order to discuss and coordinate the implementation of the supporting action.

In carrying out his activities, the EUSR has maintained frequent contacts with other relevant regional actors (for instance Chad, Egypt, Eritrea, Libya) and international (the UN, the US, Canada, Norway, international financial institutions, NGOs) actors in order to contribute to enhancing the coherence of international activities and policies towards Sudan, in favour of a negotiated settlement of the Darfur conflict and in support of the AU.

⁶⁵ Council Joint Action 2005/557/CFSP of 18 July 2005 (OJ L 188, 20.07.2005, p.46-51), extended by Council Decision 2005/806/CFSP of 21 November 2005 (OJ L 303, 22.11.2005, p.60).

Similarly, in his collaboration with EU institutions and EU capitals, the EUSR has paid special attention to contributing to a coordinated approach as regards the operational aspects of the EU's support to AMIS and to the political process in Abuja, as well as with regard to the international activities promoting the implementation of the CPA. The EUSR and his office have established close links with the AU, at working level as well as at political level. Mr Haavisto's mandate was extended on 21 November 2005 (financial reference amount: EUR 600 000).⁶⁶

EUSR for Afghanistan

The Special Representative for Afghanistan, Mr Francesc Vendrell, pursued the policy objectives of the European Union in Afghanistan in the last stage of the implementation of the Bonn Agreement. He helped to maintain the integrity of the Bonn process as well as to the United Nations Security Council Resolutions and other relevant UN resolutions on Afghanistan. The EUSR conveyed the Union's views on the political process while drawing on the key principles agreed between Afghanistan and the international community. He maintained close contacts with and gave political support to the reform efforts of Afghan authorities and to budding Afghan democratic forces. The EUSR encouraged positive contributions to the peace process from regional actors in Afghanistan and from neighboring countries. The EUSR provided substantial input to the Afghan government on several crucial issues, including the post-Bonn process (preparation of the Afghanistan Compact), the conduct of the parliamentary elections, disarmament of illegal militias, transitional justice, human rights, the rule of law and government reform. EUSR played an important role in the preparation of a new framework for EU - Afghanistan relations (the EU - Afghanistan Political Declaration was signed in November 2005).⁶⁷

In July the mandate of the EUSR was extended until 28 February 2006.⁶⁸

⁶⁶ Council Decision 2005/805/CFSP of 21 November 2005.

⁶⁷ Council Joint Action 2005/95/CFSP of 2 February 2005 and 2005/585/CFSP of 28 July 2005.

⁶⁸ Joint Action 2005/585/CFSP, OJ L 199, 29.7.2005, p. 96.

EUSR for Central Asia

In line with the EU's wish to play a more active political role in Central Asia and in order to ensure the coordination and consistency of the Union's external actions in the region in July the Council adopted Joint Action 2005/588/CFSP appointing Ján Kubiš as Special Representative of the European Union for Central Asia⁶⁹ until 28 February 2006.

The Council's decision to appoint Mr Ján Kubiš reflected the growing geopolitical importance of this region. The European Security Strategy explicitly mentions terrorist and criminal activities in Central Asian republics as a potential threat to European countries and their citizens. EU policy objectives in this part of the world, spelled out in the mandate of EUSR for Central Asia, include promoting good and close relations between the countries of Central Asia and the EU, contributing to strengthening of democracy, rule of law, good governance and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. The activities of EUSR Kubiš have contributed to enhancing EU's effectiveness in the region, i.a. through regular contacts with all Central Asian countries and closer coordination with other relevant partners and international organizations, such as the OSCE. The EUSR budget for Central Asia for the period of time from 28 July 2005 to 28 February 2006 amounted to 470,000 euros.

EUSR Kubiš travelled extensively in the region and beyond and worked closely with the main actors in Central Asia to enhance the EU's effectiveness and visibility in the region as well as to contribute to strengthening stability and cooperation between the countries of Central Asia. His efforts were especially valuable in view of the protracted political crisis in the Kyrgyz Republic following the ousting of the President Akayev in March and the Presidential elections of 10 July as well as the deterioration of EU-Uzbekistan relations following the Andijan events in May.

⁶⁹ Joint Action 2005/588/CFSP of 28 July 2005, OJ L 199, 29.7.2005, p. 100.

6. CONFLICT PREVENTION

Following the work carried out in 2004 under the Irish and Dutch Presidencies and in line with the commitments contained in the Action Plan for Civilian Aspects of ESDP, adopted in June 2004, the Luxembourg Presidency organised a seminar on "Partners in Prevention: Moving from Theory to Practice - EU Civilian Crisis Management and Development Policies, Sustainable Approaches to Training, and Involvement of Civil Society", held in Brussels on 23-24 March 2005. This seminar brought together practitioners and representatives of NGOs and civil society and think tanks/academia in a series of panels and workshops with the objective of sharing different types of expertise and examining ways for further cooperation.

In the framework of the development of capabilities in crisis management, attention is being devoted to developing a greater capacity for preventive action. In particular, work has been taken forward in planning for more effective integration of the different instruments available to the EU in responding to potential or actual crisis situations. Efforts have continued in 2005 to extend the EU's early warning capabilities and further improve the link between early warning and early action.

In June 2005 the European Council also adopted the annual Report on EU activities in the framework of prevention, including implementation of the EU Programme for the Prevention of Violent Conflicts.

7. HUMAN RIGHTS

The **protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms** is one of the founding principles of the Common Foreign and Security Policy, and this principle was constantly stressed in the EU's bilateral relations as well as in its activities in multilateral fora and in particular during the negotiations on the United Nations Human Rights Council. In addition to continuing to address human rights violations around the world, the EU played an active role in the promotion of respect for human rights.

As regards the pursuit of its priorities in promoting respect for human rights, the EU continued its efforts to ensure the comprehensive implementation of the five EU human rights guidelines (on the Death Penalty, on Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, on Human Rights Dialogues, on Children in Armed Conflicts and on Human Rights Defenders). A review of the Guidelines on Children in Armed Conflicts was adopted by the Council in December 2005.

The Working Group on Human Rights (COHOM) sought to follow up a wide range of steps to ensure coherence and consistency, mainstreaming, openness, and regular review of priorities, in the EU's human rights and democratisation policy. In this regard the Council of December 2005 adopted conclusions on the implementation of the EU human rights policy. As a contribution to the coherence and continuity of the EU human rights policy, with due regard to the responsibilities of the Commission, the Personal Representative of the SG/HR for Human Rights in the CFSP area contributed to the mainstreaming of human rights throughout the EU institutions and enhanced the EU's visibility in multilateral fora and EU human rights dialogues. With regard to mainstreaming human rights in the EU's external policy, increasing attention is being paid to the human rights aspects of crisis management and of counter-terrorism.

In confronting human rights violations in countries in all regions of the world, the EU called on the governments concerned to redress the situation through a variety of instruments, including statements, démarches and declarations. It continued to conduct its human rights dialogue with China and its consultations on human rights with the Russian Federation, two meetings of which took place in 2005. Due to a lack of willingness from the Iranian side no EU human rights dialogue could be held with Iran in 2005.

As in previous years, the EU held consultations on human rights issues with US, Canada, Japan, New Zealand and candidate countries.

The EU was again one of the main actors in the **UN Commission on Human Rights (CHR)**, the 61th session of which took place in Geneva. There the EU succeeded in getting resolutions adopted, jointly with Japan for the first time and with the United States, on the human rights situation in Burma/Myanmar, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Turkmenistan and Belarus. It also put forward the Chairperson's statements on Colombia and Afghanistan and successfully tabled thematic resolutions (together with the Latin American Group) on the death penalty, religious intolerance and the rights of the child. However, the EU regretted the fact that despite intensive negotiations, no agreement could be found with the African Group on the issue of implementation and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action concerning "Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and related intolerance". The EU also cooperated closely with the African countries on initiatives concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Sudan, establishing a mandate for a Special Rapporteur in Darfur.

At the **Third Committee** of the **60th session of the UN General Assembly**, the EU presented a general statement, concentrating in particular on issues related to the EU guidelines. The EU succeeded in securing the adoption of resolutions on DRC, Sudan, DPRK, Burma, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan (together with the US), religious intolerance and, jointly with the group of Latin American countries, a resolution on the rights of the child.

The EU played an active role in the negotiations in the Ad Hoc Committee regarding the draft **International Convention on the Protection of the Rights and Dignity of People with Disabilities**, at its meetings in New York in 2005 and at the 49th Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW).

Following the decision of Heads of State and Governments in September 2005 to create a **Human Rights Council** as part of a reform process of the United Nations, **the EU played an active role in the negotiations** in New York to put in place a reinvigorated body to enhance the credibility and effectiveness of the multilateral human rights system. During the negotiations the EU made it clear that the Human Rights Council should have the mandate to respond promptly to human rights emergencies and to address situations of violations of human rights including gross and systematic violations.

One of the EU requirements was also to make sure that the Human Rights Council would build on the achievements of the Commission on Human Rights through a system of special procedures and mechanisms, a complaints procedure and the participation of Non Governmental Organisations. The EU also stressed the importance of members of the Human Rights Council being held accountable for their commitment to abide by the highest human rights standards through various mechanisms: pledges made prior to their election, a review during their membership, and possible suspension in case of gross and systematic human rights violations.

More detailed information on the EU's human rights policy is set out in the EU Annual Report on Human Rights 2005, which was published in November 2005⁷⁰.

8. RESTRICTIVE MEASURES (SANCTIONS)

The European Union's extensive experience in designing, implementing, enforcing and monitoring restrictive measures (sanctions) in the framework of the CFSP has shown that it is desirable to standardise implementation and to strengthen methods of implementation. To this end work has been carried out in 2005 on a set of Guidelines and Best Practices with respect to such restrictive measures.

On 12 December 2005, the Council approved *Guidelines on implementation and evaluation of restrictive measures (sanctions) in the framework of the EU Common Foreign and Security Policy*⁷¹ which constitute a substantial revision of the earlier versions⁷². The main changes relate to:

- revised standard wording for exemptions from travel bans and for arms embargoes,
- new standard wording for certain specific exceptions and exemptions from the freezing of funds and economic resources,

⁷⁰ See Council website (<http://ue.eu.int/uedocs/cmsUpload/HR2005en.pdf>)

⁷¹ 15114/05 PESC 1084 FIN 475

⁷² 5579/03 PESC 757 FIN 568 and 6749/05 PESC 159 FIN 80

- new uniform templates to be used as a model for listing persons, groups and entities,
- an updated list of equipment which might be used for internal repression,
- new standard expiry/review clauses.

In 2005, work has been taken forward on developing best practices for the implementation of financial restrictive measures. On 8 December 2005 the Committee of Permanent Representatives took note of a Presidency Note containing an EU Best Practices Paper⁷³, including modalities for the administrative freezing of funds and economic resources. The Council will continue discussions in 2006 on the outstanding issues with regard to the Best Practices Paper.

The Council renewed and amended the sanctions against Belarus, Côte d'Ivoire, Myanmar, Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia, Sudan, Zimbabwe, certain persons in Moldova and in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. It also amended the lists of those subject to the sanctions imposed on the Taliban/Al-Qaida⁷⁴ and other terrorist individuals and groups on a number of occasions. Following the transfer of a number of indictees to the custody of ICTY in the Hague, the restrictive measures in support of ICTY were updated accordingly.

In line with the United Nations Security Council Resolutions, new sanctions were imposed against persons suspected of involvement in the murder of the former Prime Minister of the Lebanon Rafiq Hariri. In November 2005, the Council introduced EU autonomous sanctions against Uzbekistan.

The full up-to-date list of restrictive measures in force, including references to Common Positions, Regulations and Decisions, as well as the dates of their publication in the Official Journal can be consulted on the Commission's site:

http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external_relations/cfsp/sanctions/index.htm

⁷³ 15115/05 PESC 1085 RELEX 705 COTER 87 FIN 476

⁷⁴ The European Court of First Instance in Luxembourg dismissed two actions against the EU's implementation of the UN's Taliban/Al-Qaida list in September 2005. Both judgments are now on appeal before the European Court of Justice.

9. FINANCING OF CFSP/ESDP

In recent years, EU actions in the field of the CFSP, notably in crisis management operations, have developed at a rapid pace. The European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) crisis management operations in the Balkans, the Middle East, Africa and Asia have raised the EU's profile on the international scene⁷⁵. Continuing this path is a priority in line with the European Security Strategy (ESS). During 2005, following pressure on the CFSP budget, discussions were held within the Council on how to ensure an adequate level of funding to match the priorities.

As regards the level of the CFSP budget, at the informal meeting of Heads of State or Government at Hampton Court the figure of € 300 mio per year suggested by one Head of Government received widespread support. The European Council in its conclusions to its agreement on the next Financial Perspective "called on the Budgetary Authority to ensure a substantial increase in CFSP budget from 2007 in order to meet real predictable needs, assessed on the basis of forecasts drawn up annually by the Council, together with a reasonable margin for unforeseen activities"⁷⁶. The agreement found in the 2005 trilogue on a 40 mio increase for 2006 to total 102.6 mio for the CFSP budget is a first step.

Furthermore, to allow the EU to maintain its role as an international actor capable of providing a rapid and efficient response in crisis situations and thereby help maintain international peace and security, High Representative Solana has highlighted the need to improve the current rules and modalities of CFSP financing⁷⁷. It has notably been pointed out that greater coherence and simplified management structures are needed. Work was started within the Commission and the Council to see how procedures can be improved.

In accordance with Article 28.3 TEU, the ATHENA mechanism is being used to finance certain common costs of ESDP military operations.

⁷⁵ See Annex list of CFSP Legal Acts adopted in 2005.

⁷⁶ Doc. 15915/05

⁷⁷ Doc. 13992/05

Chapter III

PRIORITIES IN THE GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS

1. WESTERN BALKANS

Horizontal issues: Thessaloniki Agenda and Stabilisation and Association Process (SAP)

In 2005 there was good progress on the Thessaloniki agenda, which in 2003 established that the future of the Western Balkan countries lies in the European Union. All of the countries went up one step on the ladder towards closer relations with the EU in 2005. Croatia began EU accession negotiations in October, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia got EU candidate status in December, negotiations on a Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) with Albania were almost completed, SAA negotiations with Serbia and Montenegro began in October and with Bosnia and Herzegovina in November.

In line with the Stabilisation and Association Process and the Thessaloniki Agenda's emphasis on the strategic importance of regional co-operation, the Energy Community Treaty⁷⁸ was signed. Work on a Regional Trade Agreement, which will facilitate regional trade and replace the 31 bilateral trade agreements in the region, also got well under way under the guidance of the Stability Pact.

In December, the Council agreed the Partnership Agreements with each of the Balkan countries, which set out the priorities for the next 12 months.

⁷⁸ Doc. 12723/05

European Union Monitoring Mission (EUMM)

On 21 November 2005, the Council extended and amended the mandate of the European Union Monitoring Mission in the Western Balkans (EUMM) to 31 December 2006, with a financial reference amount of EUR 2 million for 2005 and EUR 1.7 million for 2006.⁷⁹

International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY)

At its meeting of 16 March 2005 the Council adopted Common Position 2005/227/CFSP,⁸⁰ renewing for a further 12 months measures in support of the effective implementation of the mandate of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) (Common Position 2004/293/CFSP, as last amended by Decision 2005/83/CFSP).

Albania

In July the Council welcomed the generally peaceful conduct of the parliamentary elections in Albania, but noted a number of shortcomings which needed to be addressed. It stressed that the new Government, once formed, must begin to work without delay on a strong European reform agenda. The Council considered that the Commission's forthcoming annual Regular Report would provide an opportunity to assess whether negotiations for a Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) could be concluded in the light of overall progress with democratic standards and reforms.

In its annual review of the Stabilisation and Association Process (SAP), the Council in December welcomed progress in Albania, and noted the Commission's judgement that this paves the way for concluding SAA-negotiations. It called on Albania to carry forward its reform agenda and to intensify efforts in a number of key areas.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

In November 2005, the Council approved EUFOR's second mission review and extended its mandate.

⁷⁹ Joint Action 2005/807/CFSP of 21 November 2005

⁸⁰ OJ L 71, 17.3.2005, p.74

The European Council decided on 24 November 2005 to extend EUPM's deployment until the end of 2007, with fewer officers and a refocused mandate ⁸¹. The Council also agreed to strengthen the EUSR's role in co-ordinating all its instruments in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Council looked forward to an increasing role for the EUSR with the transition from the OHR to an EUSR-led mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The EU launched negotiations on a Stabilisation and Association Agreement with Bosnia and Herzegovina on 25 November 2005.

Croatia

The Stabilisation and Association Agreement with Croatia ⁸² entered into force on 1 February 2005 and the first Stabilisation and Association Council meeting was held in Luxembourg on 26 April 2005 ⁸³.

The European Council at its meeting in December 2004 proposed opening EU accession negotiations with Croatia on 17 March 2005, provided that there was full cooperation with the ICTY. However, it was not until the ICTY Chief Prosecutor gave a positive assessment shortly before the Council meeting on 3 October 2005 that accession negotiations could finally get under way. The last remaining Croatian ICTY indictee, General Ante Gotovina, was subsequently apprehended in the Canary Islands on 7 December 2005 and brought to justice in The Hague.

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

In April, the Council took note of the largely peaceful conduct of the local elections, but nevertheless expressed disappointment at the irregularities that had been observed. It underlined the importance of pursuing and punishing those responsible for the irregularities and taking the necessary measures to ensure that such irregularities would not recur.

⁸¹ Joint Action 2005/824/CFSP of 24 November 2005, OJ L 307, 25.11.2005, p; 55.

⁸² L 026, 28 January 2005.

⁸³ ST 8441/05 and ST 8484/05

The Council, in April 2005, noted developments concerning the question of the name of the country and encouraged Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to intensify their efforts with a view to finding a negotiated and mutually acceptable solution within the framework of UNSCRs 817/93 and 845/93 as quickly as possible.

The Stabilisation and Association Council with the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia met on 18 July.

The European Council of 15 and 16 December considered the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia's application for accession to the EU on the basis of the Commission Opinion and decided that the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is a candidate country. The European Council made clear that further steps will have to be considered in the light of a general debate on the enlargement strategy, as provided for by the Council conclusions of 12 December 2005; of compliance by the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia with the Copenhagen political criteria; of the requirements of the Stabilisation and Association Process and the effective implementation of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement; and of the need for further significant progress to respond to the other issues and criteria for membership included in the Commission's Opinion and implementation of the priorities in the European Partnership, on the basis of specific benchmarks. Furthermore, the Council noted that the absorption capacity of the Union also has to be taken into account.

Serbia and Montenegro

The Council's focus during 2005 was on the preparations for the opening of SAA negotiations.

In April the Council invited the Commission to submit draft negotiating directives. In October, it authorised the Commission to open negotiations with Serbia and Montenegro, reflecting the progress in the reform process of the country. At the same time, the Council in December stressed that further efforts were needed, in particular in the development of the legislative framework and administrative capacity, the effective implementation of the Constitutional Charter as well as full cooperation with the ICTY.

Serbia and Montenegro/Montenegro

On 7 April a political agreement amending the Constitutional Charter, signed by the three Presidents (of the Union, of Serbia and of Montenegro), by the two Prime Ministers (of Serbia and of Montenegro) and witnessed by the EU HR for CFSP, stipulated that the Member State organising a referendum would cooperate with the EU in respecting international democratic standards. This agreement, welcomed by the Council on 25 April, provided the EU with a specific role in supporting the parties in Montenegro in the management of the proposed referendum on independence.

The Opinion of the "Venice Commission" on the conduct of the referendum in Montenegro was published on 19 December and welcomed by the EU. It formed the basis for the mandate and the initiatives on the ground of the HR Personal Representative for the referendum process, Ambassador Miroslav Lajčák, who was appointed by HR Javier Solana on 16 December.

Serbia and Montenegro/Kosovo

In June 2005, the European Council adopted a substantial Declaration on Kosovo setting out the EU's policy.

The declaration recalled, amongst others, the European Union's contribution to the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244(1999) on Kosovo. The European Union has made a substantial political commitment, particularly in support of UNMIK activities, and has taken on major responsibilities for the reconstruction and economic development of Kosovo. The Thessaloniki Declaration of June 2003 confirmed that the future of the Western Balkans, including Kosovo, was in the European Union.

The European Council recommended that all those responsible for implementing standards, particularly the Provisional Institutions of Self-Government (PISG) in Kosovo, should redouble their efforts to achieve concrete results urgently, particularly as regards the return of refugees and displaced persons and the protection of all the communities in Kosovo. It called on all political leaders, in Pristina as well as in Belgrade, not to obstruct this process.

The European Council recalled that the opening of the procedure to determine the future status of Kosovo in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 1244(1999) would depend on the positive outcome of the comprehensive review. It noted that compliance with standards was a fundamental and continuing obligation which was an integral part of that process. Rapprochement with the EU will also depend on such compliance and on the full implementation of standards; the EU will therefore continue to follow this process closely.

On the status of Kosovo, the European Council reaffirmed that any solution must be fully compatible with European values and norms, comply with international legal instruments and obligations and the United Nations Charter, and contribute to realising the European prospects of Kosovo and the region. At the same time, any agreement on status must ensure that Kosovo does not return to the pre-March 1999 situation.

The European Council declared that the determination of the future status of Kosovo must be based on multi-ethnicity and on full respect for human rights, including the right for all refugees and displaced persons to return home safely. The status must offer effective constitutional guarantees to ensure that minorities are protected, including mechanisms to ensure their participation in central government and in the new local administrative structures to be put in place. It should also include specific safeguards to protect the cultural heritage and religious sites and to promote effective mechanisms to combat organised crime, corruption and terrorism.

The European Council also declared that the determination of the status of Kosovo must reinforce the security and stability of the region. Thus any solution which was unilateral or resulted from the use of force as well as any changes to the current territory of Kosovo, would be unacceptable. Thus there will be no partition of Kosovo, nor any union of Kosovo with another country or with part of another country following the resolution of the status of Kosovo. The territorial integrity of neighbouring countries must be fully respected. Likewise, the status must guarantee that Kosovo can continue to develop in a way which is both economically and politically sustainable, and not constitute a military or security threat to its neighbours.

The European Council stressed that Kosovo will, in the medium term, continue to need a civilian and military international presence to ensure security and in particular protection for minorities, to help with the continuing implementation of standards and to exercise appropriate supervision of compliance with the provisions contained in the status agreement. In this respect, the European Council stressed the EU's willingness to play a full part, in close cooperation with the relevant partners and international organisations.

The European Council stressed that the European Union would continue to contribute to the international community's efforts in Kosovo. It is determined to reinforce its actions further, particularly in consolidating the rule of law and a viable economic environment, in keeping with its special responsibility for the future of the region, in particular by actively pursuing the Thessaloniki agenda, and by being fully involved in the definition of the status of Kosovo, which must enable Belgrade and Pristina to make progress towards Euro-Atlantic integration.

The Council considered Kosovo on several other occasions. In February, the Council considered the situation in Kosovo in the presence of the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Kosovo and it offered Mr Jessen-Petersen its full support for his task of implementing UN Security Council Resolution 1244(1999).

In April, the Council took note of the Commission's Communication on the European future of Kosovo⁸⁴. This communication, which constitutes an important contribution to the report which it had requested from the SG/HR and the Commission, in close cooperation with the Presidency, at its meeting on 21 February 2005, confirms Kosovo's long-term European prospects and the importance of implementing standards.

In June, the Council welcomed the joint report by the SG/HR and the Commission, in close cooperation with the Presidency, on the EU's future role and contribution in Kosovo. It asked the SG/HR and the Commission to continue, in close cooperation with the Presidency, the examination of those issues and to report to the Council in due course.

⁸⁴ COM (2005) 156 final

In November, the Council welcomed Ambassador Kai Eide's Comprehensive Review of the situation in Kosovo and expressed its full support for the UN Secretary General's intention to start a political process to determine Kosovo's future status. The Council welcomed the UN Secretary General's intention to appoint Mr Martti Ahtisaari as UN Status Envoy, and Mr Albert Rohan as his deputy, and underlined the EU's support for his mandate and its intention to work closely with him.

The Council welcomed Mr Martti Ahtisaari 's readiness to cooperate closely with the EU. The Council endorsed the SG/HR's nomination of Mr Stefan Lehne as EU representative to the Kosovo future status process. Under the guidance of the SG/HR and the Council, the EU representative will support the UN Status Envoy in the implementation of his mandate and will provide regular and timely reports to the SG/HR and the relevant bodies of the Council. He will also contribute, under the guidance of the Council and in close cooperation with the Commission, to preparations for the EU's future role in Kosovo.

In view of the possibility of the EU enhancing its engagement in Kosovo, the Council invited the SG/HR, together with the Commission, to continue their work in identifying the possible future EU role and contribution, including in the areas of police, rule of law and the economy, and to submit joint proposals to the Council in the near future. The Council also welcomed the Commission's co-operation with UNMIK and the PISG to promote the progressive alignment of the Kosovo Standards and the priorities identified in the European Partnership with a view to fostering progress towards EU standards.

2. EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

Russian Federation

After lengthy and arduous negotiations, the fifteenth EU/Russia Summit on 10 May in Moscow adopted detailed road maps for each of the four Common Spaces created at the St. Petersburg Summit in May 2003 (Common Economic Space, Common Space of Freedom, Security and Justice, Common Space of External Security, Common Space of Research and Education, including Cultural Aspects).

These road maps (Doc 8799/05 ADD 1) set out the basic principles for co-operation in each of the common spaces and enumerate agreed areas of co-operation between the EU and Russia for the years ahead. The early steps taken to implement the road maps have already led to a further intensification of contacts.

The road map for the Common Space of External Security covers the following areas: strengthened dialogue and co-operation on the international scene, fight against terrorism, non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery and the strengthening of export control regimes and disarmament, co-operation in crisis management and co-operation in the field of civil protection.

The fifteenth EU-Russia Summit in Moscow also agreed on the principle of establishing a “European Studies Institute” in Moscow for promoting studies and training in Russia in the field of European Union law, EU economy, EU general and interdisciplinary studies, including training and retraining for government officials and post-graduate students, in accordance with the best practices in the EU.

The sixteenth EU-Russia Summit was held on 4 October 2005 in London. In a landmark decision, the Summit agreed the terms of visa facilitation and readmission agreements, which when in force will greatly contribute to promoting travel and people-to-people contacts as well as effective co-operation in management of illegal immigration. The Summit also provided an opportunity for a detailed exchange of views on EU-Russia co-operation in the field of energy. This discussion had been prepared by the first meeting of EU and Russian energy ministers in the Permanent Partnership Council format on 3 October in London. The Summit also welcomed the agreement on an EU programme in support of socio-economic recovery in the North Caucasus (20m€). In addition, the Summit briefly discussed the future of EU/Russia relations after the end of the first period of validity of the Partnership and Co-operation Agreement (PCA) in 2007. A brainstorming session with the participation of EU and Russian experts and academics was held in Moscow on 14 December to further discuss this issue.

Throughout the year, the EU and Russia maintained an intensive political dialogue, at political level and at expert level.

The areas of cooperation extended from various geographical areas (in particular the Middle East and the Balkans) to various horizontal issues, such as the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, crisis management and terrorism, as well as cooperation in various international organisations (in particular the UN and OSCE). In this context, special priority was given by the EU to countries in the common neighbourhood of Russia and the enlarged EU.

On 1 March 2005 in Luxembourg the EU hosted the first EU-Russia Consultation on Human Rights. Following an agreement at the EU/Russia Summit in The Hague on 25 November 2004, the first consultations addressed the human rights situation in the Russian Federation, in particular in the North Caucasus region, the human rights situation in the European Union as well as possibilities for EU/Russia co-operation in international human rights fora, in particular the United Nations and the Council of Europe. A second round of consultations was held in Brussels on 8 September 2005.

Moldova

Relations between the EU and Moldova have been deepened and widened. On 22 February, the EU-Moldova Cooperation Council adopted the EU-Moldova ENP Action Plan, which provides the framework for EU-Moldova cooperation in the coming years. It allows Moldova to benefit fully from the European Neighbourhood Policy. In pursuance of the Action Plan, the EU decided *inter alia* to offer Moldova to align with EU declarations and common positions on a case-by-case basis.

In February, the Council adopted a Common Position⁸⁵ renewing restrictive measures against those in the leadership of the Transnistrian region of Moldova who were deemed responsible for preventing progress towards the settlement of the Transnistrian conflict. The Common Position of August 2004 introducing restrictive measures against those Transnistrian officials chiefly responsible for the summer 2004 school crisis was reviewed in December. In the light of certain improvements as regards the situation of the schools, some people were taken of the sanction list⁸⁶.

⁸⁵ Common Position 2005/147/CFSP, OJ L 49, 22.2.2005, p. 31.

⁸⁶ Common Position 2005/890/CFSP, OJ L 327, p. 33.

In line with the European Security Strategy and in order to redouble its efforts to contribute to the solution of the Transnistrian conflict, the Council appointed an EU Special Representative for Moldova in March⁸⁷.

Since October, the EU and the U.S. have been participating in the Transnistrian settlement talks as observers.

In June, Moldovan President Voronin, who was re-elected in spring, paid his first official visit abroad to Brussels, meeting with HR Solana for an extended exchange of views.

On 28 June 2005, the European Commission and the Government of the Republic of Moldova signed an Establishment Agreement to set up a Delegation of the Commission in Chisinau. On 6 October 2005, the new Delegation of the European Commission to Moldova, headed by Cesare De Montis, was established by Commissioner Ferrero-Waldner.

On 30 November, HR Solana and Commissioner Ferrero-Waldner inaugurated the EU Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine. Headquartered in Odessa, this Mission under the Rapid Reaction Mechanism is the response to a joint letter written by the Ukrainian and Moldovan Presidents to the Commission and HR Solana, asking for assistance. Given the form and nature of the response, a joint Council-Commission approach was considered the most suitable. The Head of EUBAM is double-hatted as Senior Political Advisor to the EUSR for Moldova and as head of a team of three EUSR advisors for border-related issues, who are based in Kyiv, Odessa, and Chisinau.

Belarus

Relations between the European Union and Belarus continued to deteriorate during 2005. The Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the EU and Belarus remains frozen. Belarus does not yet benefit from the European Neighbourhood Policy.

⁸⁷ Joint Action 2005/265/CFSP, OJ L 81, p. 50.

Throughout 2005 the EU has systematically expressed its concern over the deteriorating situation of civil rights and democratic freedoms in the country, especially concerning attacks by the Belarusian authorities against opposition leaders, politically motivated trials, closure of independent educational institutions and newspapers, harassment and closure of NGOs.

On 21 April Javier Solana, EU High Representative for the CFSP, and US Secretary of State, Condoleeza Rice, jointly met Belarus opposition and civil society leaders in Vilnius. On 20 September, the Council adopted Common Position 2005/666/CFSP (OJ L 247/40 of 23.9.2005) extending for another 12 months restrictive measures against certain Belarusian officials in connection with the disappearance of prominent individuals in the country and the subsequent obstruction of justice, as well as those held responsible for the fraudulent elections and referendum of 2004 and severe human rights violations in the repression of peaceful demonstrations.

In November the Council reiterated its concern over the situation of human rights and political freedoms in Belarus and called on the Belarusian authorities to conduct the forthcoming Presidential elections in accordance with international standards. The Council had equally underlined its support for intensifying people-to-people contacts and good neighbourly relations across borders.

Upon invitation of the Council, the Commission organised a series of workshops aimed at better coordination amongst donors concerning assistance to democratisation and civil society in Belarus.

Ukraine

In 2005, the adoption of EU-Ukraine Action Plan (doc UE-UA 1050/05), and the package of ten additional measures adopted at the GAERC meeting on 21 February 2005 to further strengthen and enrich the Action Plan, gave a new impulse to the EU's relations with this Eastern neighbour.

After the events of the "Orange Revolution" at the end of 2004, the EU responded to the existence of a strong Ukrainian civil society committed to democracy and European values by intensifying and upgrading the relations with this country.

The first steps to implement both the Action Plan and the Council Conclusions have already led to a further intensification of contacts.

The EU-Ukraine Action Plan is an agenda for reform and EU assistance. It encompasses, inter alia, strengthening democratic institutions and the rule of law and ranges from cooperation in the common neighbourhood (Moldova) to economic integration, legislative approximation and cooperation in the field of justice and home affairs, including visa facilitation and readmission. Its full implementation would bring Ukraine closer to European standards.

In 2005, the EU and Ukraine maintained an intensive political dialogue, at political and at expert level, with more frequent consultations on issues of regional and international importance. Exceptionally, the EU and Ukraine held two Cooperation Councils in 2005 (21 February and 13 June). These Cooperation Councils and the Summit on 1 December 2005 in Kiev gave testimony to the deepening and strengthening of the good state of EU-Ukraine relations.

Throughout the year good cooperation was established, in particular concerning foreign and security policy. Since May 2005 Ukraine has been offered the possibility to align with EU positions and declarations on various issues of foreign policy. The good use of this mechanism by Ukraine showed a strong convergence on foreign policy. The signing of two CFSP agreements in the margin of the 13 June 2005 Cooperation Council (on “exchange of classified information” and “Framework Agreement for the Participation of Ukraine in EU-led crisis management operations”), the participation of Ukraine in ESDP missions (EU Police Mission (EUPM) in Bosnia and the EU Police Mission (EUPOL PROXIMA) in FYROM) fostered cooperation in the CFSP area.

Good cooperation has also been achieved in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation. Ukraine's accession to the Australia Group, Ukraine's parliamentary approval of the Mine Ban Treaty (“Ottawa Convention”) and ratification of the additional Protocol to the Agreement with the IAEA for the application of safeguards in connection with the non-proliferation treaty (16 November) allowed Ukraine to benefit from the EU Joint Action in Support of IAEA activities (2005/574/CFSP from 18 July 2005) and from EU assistance in implementing the IAEA Additional Protocol.

Also in this context, the EU decided to contribute EUR 1 Mio to support Ukraine's efforts to destroy its stockpiles of Small Arms and Light Weapons and their ammunition (doc 13787/05).

Furthermore, good cooperation has been achieved in the common neighbourhood, in particular regarding regional security. Ukraine presented new proposals for the settlement of the Transnistrian conflict and supported the inclusion of the EU and the US as observers in the negotiation format.. Upon request by the Presidents of Ukraine and Moldova, the EU agreed to establish a Border Assistance Mission at the border between Ukraine and Moldova, including on the Transnistrian segment. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed on 7 October by the foreign ministers of the two countries and by the Commission, allowing for the mission to be launched on 1 December 2005. The mission aims at enhancing the capacities of the Ukrainian and Moldovan services on the border and will provide a valuable contribution to the settlement of the Transnistrian conflict.

In other areas of cooperation progress has been also visible. At the EU-Ukraine Summit, on 1 December, Ukraine and the EU welcomed the launch of visa facilitation and readmission agreements negotiations. On trade and economic relations, the EU agreed on granting Market Economy Status (MES) to Ukraine. Also in the margins of the Summit, EU and Ukraine signed agreements on Civil Satellite Navigation (Galileo) and Aviation, and a Memorandum of Understanding on co-operation in the field of energy. On energy, the importance of rapid implementation of this memorandum aiming at a progressive integration of the Ukrainian energy market to the EU as well as enhancing energy security has been stressed.

South Caucasus

2005 witnessed a substantial development of relations between the EU and the three countries of the South Caucasus.

In March, the Commission presented reports on each country⁸⁸ and made recommendations to the Council⁸⁹ for the key objectives to be included in subsequent European Neighbourhood Policy Action Plans.

⁸⁸ Commission staff working papers SEC (2005) 285, SEC (2005) 286 and SEC (2005) 288.

⁸⁹ Communication from the Commission to the Council - European Neighbourhood Policy - Recommendations for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and for Egypt and Lebanon , COM (2005) 72 final, 2.3.2005

In April, in its conclusions on European Neighbourhood Policy, the Council reaffirmed the importance that the European Union attaches to Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia as neighbours and partners and invited the Commission to initiate joint discussions to prepare an action plan for the three South Caucasus countries. The technical consultations on the ENP Action Plans started with all three South Caucasus countries during the last weeks of 2005.

The Cooperation Committees with Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia took place in June 2005 in the region.

From 15 July 2004 to 14 July 2005 the EU deployed operation EUJUST Themis in Georgia, a rule of law mission established using the civilian crisis management arrangements within the European Security and Defence Policy ⁹⁰ (Council Joint Action 2004/523/CFSP, published in OJ L 228, pp. 21 to 24). The mission was designed to assist Georgia to develop a horizontal strategy to guide the reform process in the criminal justice sector in response to an invitation by the Georgian authorities. This mission was something of a novelty, representing a new development in the civilian aspects of ESDP.

Following the closure of the OSCE Border Monitoring Operation in Georgia, on 8 March the Political and Security Committee agreed to set up a team of three border experts to support the EUSR for the South Caucasus for an initial period of three months (Council Joint Action 2005/330/CFSP, published in OJ L 106, p.36). On 4 April the three experts arrived in Tbilisi.

On 9 June 2005 the Political and Security Committee agreed to further strengthen the EUSR for the South Caucasus through a reinforcement and prolongation of the Border Team and through the continued presence of two of the Rule of Law experts from EUJUST THEMIS as part of the reinforced support team.

The 10 person-strong reinforced EUSR Support Team for the EUSR for the South Caucasus, based in Tbilisi, started its operation on 1 September ⁹¹.

⁹⁰ Joint Action 2004/523/CFSP, OJ L 228, 29.6.2004, p. 21.

⁹¹ Joint Action 2005/582/2005, OJ L 199, 29.7.2005, p. 92.

According to the mandate, his tasks are the following:

- i) to provide reporting and continued assessment of the border situation and to facilitate confidence-building between Georgia and the Russian Federation, thereby ensuring efficient cooperation with all relevant actors;
- ii) to assist the Georgian Border Guard and other relevant government institutions in Tbilisi in preparing a comprehensive reform strategy;
- iii) to work with the Georgian authorities to increase communication between Tbilisi and the border, including mentoring. This is being done by working closely with Regional Border Guard Centres between Tbilisi and the border (excluding Abkhazia and South Ossetia);
- iv) to oversee the implementation of the strategy for the reform of the criminal justice system by the Georgian authorities and other actors, in particular through providing support to the Steering Group set up by the Georgian Government.

On 18 July 2005, the Council adopted Joint Action 2005/561/CFSP regarding a contribution of EUR 130 000 to the OSCE to finance certain activities of the Joint Control Commission (JCC) in the framework of the conflict settlement process in Georgia/South Assetia.

A Senior Officials Troika visited the region from 24-28 October.

Ministerial Troika Meetings with Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia were held on 13 December 2005.

Commissioner Benita Ferrero-Waldner visited Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia on 16-17 February 2006.

Central Asia

Relations between the European Union and Central Asia in 2005 were marked by concrete steps aiming at developing closer and more active relations with the countries of Central Asia.

In June, a Regional Dialogue meeting between the EU and five Central Asian countries took place in Brussels.

The annual Cooperation Councils with Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic witnessed the emergence of a growing range of common interests between the EU and these countries.

In line with the EU's wish to play a more active political role in the region of Central Asia, the Council in July adopted Joint Action 2005/588/CFSP appointing Ján Kubiš as Special Representative of the European Union for Central Asia (OJ L 199/100 of 29.7.2005). EUSR Kubiš has travelled extensively in the region and has been working closely with various partners in order to enhance EU's effectiveness and visibility in Central Asia as well as to contribute to strengthening stability and cooperation between the countries in the region. His efforts were especially valuable in view of the protracted political crisis in the Kyrgyz Republic following the ousting of the President Akayev in March and the Presidential elections of 10 July as well as the deterioration of EU-Uzbekistan relations following the Andijan events in May.

In May, June, July and October the Council condemned reported disproportionate and indiscriminate use of force by the Uzbek authorities in Andijan in May and called on the Uzbek authorities to allow an independent international enquiry into these events to take place. Following the failure of the Uzbek authorities to respond adequately to such a call, the Council suspended *sine die* all scheduled technical meetings under the PCA and supported the Commission's decision to re-orient assistance towards increased support for the needs of the population, democracy and human rights. In November the Council adopted Common Position 2005/792/CFSP (OJ L 299/72 of 16.11.2005) concerning restrictive measures against Uzbekistan, which included an arms embargo and restriction on admission to the EU of certain Uzbek officials, held directly responsible for the indiscriminate and disproportionate use of force in Andijan.

3. MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS

2005 started with the holding of the Palestinian presidential elections which were conducted in a free and fair manner. Shortly following his assumption of office, President Mahmud Abbas met with Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon on 8 February in Sharm-el-Sheikh together with Egyptian President Mubarak and King Abdullah of Jordan. The Israeli and the Palestinian sides undertook commitments with respect to the ending of violence, the transfer of security responsibilities and the release of prisoners. A further meeting between PM Sharon and President Abbas took place on 21 June in Jerusalem. The EU stressed the need for such contacts to improve in both substance and frequency and to take place on all levels; it also called on both sides to rapidly implement the commitments made in Sharm-el-Sheikh. The London Meeting on Supporting the Palestinian Authority on 1 March 2005 was an opportunity for the international community to support the Palestinian efforts under President Abbas to consolidate the structures of the future Palestinian State.

The central theme in 2005 was the Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and parts of the northern West Bank, which was pursued by the Israeli government against considerable internal opposition and successfully concluded in September. From early on, the EU stressed the need to ensure the social and economic viability of Gaza following disengagement, particularly with respect to the need for access to the outside. To that effect and specifically in order to lead, oversee and coordinate the international community's efforts in support of the disengagement initiative, the Quartet appointed James Wolfensohn to serve as its Special Envoy for the Gaza Disengagement following the end of his term as World Bank President. Mr. Wolfensohn took up his new task as Special Envoy with vigour. Among others, the Special Envoy worked on a number of joint issues for the Israelis and Palestinians in order to set the conditions for ensuring the success of the disengagement and on a plan to double resources from the international community over a period of three years, the latter being endorsed by the G8 at its Gleneagles Summit on 6-8 July.

On the basis of the "Agreement on Movement and Access" between Israel and the Palestinian Authority on 15 November, an international crossing point between Egypt and Gaza at Rafah was opened on 25 November with the EU - in the framework of an ESDP mission - performing the role of the third party as provided for in the Agreement.

An important role throughout the year was played by EU COPPS (EU Coordinating Office for Palestinian Police Support) which cooperated closely with US Security Co-ordinator General Ward in the reform and strengthening of Palestinian security and police structures. On 7 November the Council decided to launch an ESDP Police Mission in the Palestinian Territories to build on the work of EU COPPS for a three-year period starting at the beginning of 2006.

The year ended with the preparation of the elections for the Palestinian Legislative Council scheduled for 25 January 2006 and the launch of an EU Electoral Observation Mission for these elections. The EU as part of the Quartet congratulated President Abbas and the Palestinian people on an electoral process that was free, fair and secure. Equally, Israel headed for Knesset elections on 28 March 2006 after having experienced a major political shake-up with PM Sharon, together with a considerable number of prominent Likud and Labour members, founding the Kadima party in November.

4. TURKEY

The European Council on 16/17 December 2004 - in the light of the Commission regular report and recommendation of October 2004 - decided that Turkey sufficiently fulfilled the Copenhagen political criteria for accession negotiations to be opened. On that occasion, the European Council recalled the need to ensure the irreversibility and full implementation of the political reform process. Against this background, the reform process in Turkey was monitored particularly closely and was the subject of intensive dialogue with that country throughout 2005. In particular, a political dialogue meeting at ministerial level (troika) was held in Ankara on 7 March 2005. The 44th meeting of the EC-Turkey Association Council (Ministerial level) took place in Luxembourg on 26 April 2005. The 113th meeting of the Association Committee was held in Brussels on 17 March 2005. Political dialogue meetings at Political Director level (troika) took place in Luxembourg on 16 February 2005 and in New York on 21 September 2005 (in the margins of the 60th UNGA).

In all these fora, the Union strongly encouraged Turkey to firmly pursue the political reform process and to ensure its effective and comprehensive implementation by all public authorities and throughout the country, to make further efforts as regards fundamental freedoms and human rights, to contribute to a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem, to fully implement the Additional Protocol to the Ankara Agreement, to take concrete steps for the normalisation of bilateral relations between Turkey and all Member States, including Cyprus, as soon as possible, and to work towards implementation of paragraph 4 of the Helsinki European Council conclusions (peaceful settlement of disputes). A number of international issues of mutual interest were also discussed at these meetings. In addition, the Commission continued the focused political criteria monitoring dialogue, through regular meetings with the Turkish authorities.

5. MEDITERRANEAN REGION

The past year has been the focus of intensive diplomatic activity in the context of the celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, which started through the adoption of the Barcelona declaration in 1995.

The 7th Euromed Conference of Foreign Ministers held on 30-31 May 2005 in Luxembourg resulted for the first time in agreed conclusions, which allowed Ministers to assess what had been achieved so far and to discuss future general guidelines for the Barcelona Process to be adopted by the Summit, to be held on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Partnership. The result of this review was a mixed picture, since the Conference recognised that much remained to be done in order to realise the full potential of the Barcelona Declaration. In the political and security field, while major conflicts in the region remained unresolved, it was possible to agree on a number of partnership-building measures in a more flexible manner bilaterally or subregionally; in that respect, the ground work was laid for the setting-up of an early-warning system against tidal waves in the Mediterranean; existing partnership building measures continued, in particular the Malta seminars, cooperation by the EuroMeSCO network of Foreign Policy Institutes and cooperation on civil protection, in particular under the current Euromed Intermediate Bridge Project 2005-2007.

In accordance, inter alia, with the EU Security Strategy recommendations, consultations continued with the assistance of the Personal Representative of SG/HR Solana aiming to agree on terms of reference on modalities for the organisation of an ad hoc meeting on WMD in the Mediterranean Region. Equally, cooperation in the fight against terrorism was confirmed, to be developed under the second phase of the Euromed regional cooperation programme in the field of justice; in that connection a successful ad hoc meeting on terrorism was held on 18 May 2005 in Brussels. Finally, dialogue on ESDP with the Mediterranean Partners was taken forward through a successful meeting between the Senior Officials and the PSC troika on 11 April 2005, to be developed on a regional, sub-regional or bilateral basis; it focussed on civil protection, conflict prevention and crisis management activities, such as a seminar on crisis management, held on 27-29 June 2005, in Athens.

During the second semester, under the UK Presidency, work focussed on the preparations for the 10th Anniversary Summit; an important Euromed ad hoc meeting on terrorism, on radicalisation and recruitment was held on 21 September 2005 in Brussels, which concentrated on the facilitating, motivational and societal factors of incitement to terrorism. Furthermore, the dialogue on ESDP with the Mediterranean Partners continued; an ad hoc meeting on ESDP was held on 5 December 2005 in Brussels, which concentrated on recent ESDP developments and provided an opportunity for the Mediterranean countries to inform Member States of their recent involvement in crisis management and discussed a follow-up to the Athens Crisis Management Seminar.

The 10th Anniversary Euro-Mediterranean Summit was held on 27-28 November 2005 in Barcelona, where Heads of State and Government pledged their renewed commitment to the objectives of the Barcelona Declaration. A Five Year Work Programme on political, economic and social reform, as well as a Euro-Mediterranean Code of Conduct Countering Terrorism were adopted. In the political and security field, emphasis was given to strengthening of democracy, expanding participation in political life, public affairs and decision-making, and further promoting gender equality. The Promotion of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, ensuring independence of the judiciary, were equally stressed.

The idea of the establishment of a substantial EU Governance Facility to support the Mediterranean Partners' reform efforts was endorsed; other achievements included: joint cooperation in the field of elections, on a voluntary basis and upon request of the country concerned; deepening the dialogue on human rights, both in the framework of the Association Agreements, as well as before the multilateral fora, and agreement to launch negotiations on trade in services and agriculture. Finally, agreement was achieved to hold a Ministerial meeting to discuss all issues pertinent to migration, to be prepared by an Expert Senior Officials' meeting.

Morocco

2005 has been used to further strengthen the relationship on the basis of the European Neighbourhood Policy Action Plan, which was officially adopted through a Recommendation of the EU-Morocco Association Council on 13 October 2005⁹². The Protocol to the Association Agreement providing for the accession of the ten new EU Member States was signed on 31 May in the margins of the Euro-Mediterranean Conference in Luxembourg⁹³. On 1 February, the EU and Morocco signed an Agreement on the participation of Morocco in the EU military crisis management operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Operation ALTHEA)⁹⁴. Morocco, by providing 130 military staff to this EU-led operation, has shown the importance it attaches to developing the security partnership with the EU. On 9 November, the second meeting in the framework of the reinforced political dialogue at senior officials' level was held in Brussels. It presented a useful opportunity to deepen discussion on the on-going political reforms in Morocco as well as to coordinate views on some regional and international matters of interest to both sides. It also made some useful preparations for the fifth session of the EU-Morocco Association Council in Brussels on 22 November. The political dialogue conducted on this occasion focused in particular on co-operation in the fight against terrorism as well the challenges posed by migration. Both sides also exchanged their views on the Western Sahara issue. 2005 also saw the concretisation of the co-operation between the EU and Morocco in the fight against terrorism, the EU and Morocco both having considerable interest in deepening co-operation in this field. A work programme was agreed in the second half of the year. It foresees the provision of technical assistance for counter-terrorism measures.

⁹² OJ L 285, 28.10.2005

⁹³ OJ L 242, 19.9.2005

⁹⁴ OJ L 34 of 8.2.2005

In 2006, the EU and Morocco will seek to build on these achievements with a view to further developing Morocco's "advanced status" in its relationship with the European Union. With legislative elections coming up in 2007, some key choices will have to be made in 2006. In this perspective, interesting recommendations are contained in the report presented by the Justice and Reconciliation Commission ("Instance Équité et réconciliation") in November 2005 as well as in the report on "50 years of human development - perspectives for 2025".

Western Sahara

The EU continued to monitor the situation closely. It welcomed the nomination of Mr Peter van Walsum on 25 July as the new Personal Envoy of the UN Secretary General for Western Sahara and expressed the hope that a new impetus could be given to a process which the UN Security Council has described as being in a political impasse. The EU has continued to give its full support to the UN efforts aimed at finding a just, lasting and mutually accepted political solution of the conflict, in conformity with international law. It has called on the parties to work towards this objective actively and constructively, together with the new Personal Envoy. As regards the humanitarian issues, the EU welcomed the release of the remaining 404 Moroccan prisoners of war by the Polisario Front in August. The EU had repeatedly interceded with the parties to call for their immediate release. It also expressed the hope that this measure will be followed by more concrete action from the parties, each within their area of responsibility, with a view to resolving the remaining humanitarian issues linked to the conflict, notably the questions of the disappeared persons and the confidence-building measures. Moreover, the EU has expressed its concern over the developments following the demonstrations in Laayoune in May and the allegations of human rights violations in the Territory and in the Tindouf refugee camps, as reported by the UNSG in October.

The UN Security Council on 28 October 2005 extended the mandate of MINURSO for a further six months to the end of May 2006. The Personal Envoy was asked to present a report on the situation before the end of that period. Morocco has announced that it will come forward with proposals in April 2006. In the run-up, Mr van Walsum is liaising closely with the parties and neighbouring states as well as with the main UN actors. He has also expressed an interest in closer exchanges with the EU on that matter.

Libya

The European Council at its meeting on 15/16 December noted the progress made in the development of the EU's relations with Libya, while urging a continued effort from Libya to resolve EU concerns and other outstanding issues. It recalled the EU's wish to see Libya become a full member of the Barcelona Process. It underlined that Libya could play a valuable role in the Process. It reiterated that participation in the Process, and subsequent progression towards the conclusion of an Association Agreement, would require Libya to accept the Declaration and Barcelona acquis in full. Libya continued to be invited to certain Barcelona Process meetings as a special guest of the Presidency and attended the Tenth Anniversary Euro-Mediterranean Summit in Barcelona on 27/28 November.

Key to the future development of relations is the resolution of the case of the five Bulgarian and Palestinian medical personnel sentenced to death in May 2004. In the meantime the implementation of the EU HIV Action Plan for Benghazi continues. 1 million euro from the EU Rapid Reaction mechanism has been provided for the first phase of operation. A second phase of the operation was approved on 13 March 2006 providing for a further 1 million euro.

6. MIDDLE EAST / GULF

Iran

Iran's nuclear programme remained the focus of the EU's attention throughout 2005. Up to August, the negotiations conducted with Iran by France, Germany and the United Kingdom, supported by the High Representative, tried to reach an agreement on objective guarantees that Iran's nuclear programme was only intended for peaceful purposes. During this period, the EU also held several negotiating sessions with Iran on a Trade and Cooperation agreement and a Political Dialogue agreement. However, when Iran restarted uranium conversion in August 2005, and rejected out of hand a European proposals paper, the negotiations were stopped. The EU then focused its efforts on maintaining a strong international consensus, including Russia, China, and the US, in order to persuade Iran to return to full suspension of uranium conversion and to the resumption of negotiations.

In spite of efforts from the EU side, it was not possible to have a session of the EU-Iran Comprehensive Dialogue during 2005. The Council agreed that the Comprehensive Dialogue is an appropriate framework for discussing issues of mutual interest and concern. These include not only areas such as counter-narcotics but also long-standing concerns for the EU: terrorism, the proliferation of WMD, Iran's approach to the Middle East Peace Process, human rights and fundamental freedoms and regional issues. Cooperation on the fight against drug trafficking continued.

The Council expressed its deep concern at the serious violations of human rights which continue to occur in Iran. It urged Iran to strengthen respect for human rights and the rule of law. The Council was disappointed that the EU-Iran Human Rights Dialogue had not been held since June 2004, despite repeated attempts on the EU's part to agree dates for the next round. The Council urged Iran to take steps to resume substantive discussions under the Dialogue and to demonstrate by its actions that it is willing to improve respect for human rights, including by fulfilling its obligations and earlier commitments in relation to juvenile executions and by permanently releasing prisoners of conscience.

The Council underlined the fact that whether the EU's long-term relationship with Iran improves or deteriorates will depend on progress on all issues of concern. Given provocative political moves by Iran since May, the Council agreed on the need to keep the EU's diplomatic options under close review and to continue to calibrate the EU's approach in the light of Iranian declarations and actions.

Iraq

The EU continued to strengthen its relations with Iraq through support to the political and economic reconstruction of Iraq in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 1546. Iraq's first elections took place in January leading to the establishment of an Iraqi Transitional Assembly and a Transitional Government, a referendum in October leading to the adoption of the Draft Constitution and elections for a Council of Representatives in accordance with the new Constitution in December. The Community provided significant assistance to both elections and the referendum and continued its political dialogue with Iraq at all levels in accordance with the EU-Iraq Joint Declaration on Political Dialogue which was signed in New York on 21 September 2005.

In order to further the political process and enhance support for the transition process in Iraq by the international community the EU, together with the US, hosted the Iraq International Conference with the participation of more than 80 countries and international organisations in Brussels on 22 June 2005. The Declaration from this Conference confirmed the support of the participants to the transition process in Iraq in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 1546.

The EU continued to make substantial contributions to the International Reconstruction Fund Facility for Iraq (IRFFI). The Presidency and the Commission took part in the proceedings of the "Core Group", which brings together the principal international donors, and in the meeting of the IRFFI Donor Committee in Jordan in July 2005. As part of its efforts to help address the urgent needs of the Iraqi criminal justice system the Council adopted a Joint Action on the EU Integrated Rule of Law Mission for Iraq (EUJUST LEX) on 7 March 2005⁹⁵. The operational phase began on 1 July. The financial reference amount is EUR 10 000 000. EUJUST LEX provides training for high and mid level officials in the Iraqi Police Service, the Judiciary and the Correctional Service (prisons) in senior management and criminal investigation. The Training aims at improving capacity, coordination and collaboration of the different components of the Iraqi criminal justice system. The mission has a liaison office in Baghdad. The EU is currently discussing an 18-month extension as well as increasing and broadening its training activities, and the possibility of doubling the size of the Baghdad Liaison Office.

Israel

The conclusion of an Action Plan in the framework of the European Neighbourhood Policy, officially adopted through a Recommendation of the EU-Israel Association Council on 26 April⁹⁶, was the most visible sign of the net improvement of bilateral relations with Israel. At the Association Committee meeting on 14 April in Jerusalem both sides looked at the priorities for implementation during the first year of operation. They also discussed the situation in the Middle East. On 29 August 2005, the EU and Israel agreed to establish ten subcommittees within the institutional framework set up by the Association Agreement⁹⁷, in particular to monitor and carry forward the work on the ENP Action Plan.

⁹⁵ Council Joint Action 2005/190/CFSP of 7 March 2005, OJ L 62 of 9.3.2005.

⁹⁶ OJ L 233 of 9 September 2005 of 9.9.2005

⁹⁷ Decision No 1/2005 of the EU-Israel Association Council (OJ L 233 of 9.9.2005)

The new structure comprises a subcommittee on "Political dialogue and co-operation" tasked to look at the implementation of the actions agreed in the political chapter of the Action Plan, on issues such as human rights, anti-Semitism and other forms of racism including Islamophobia as well as regional and international questions, notably the situation in the Middle East, non-proliferation of WMD and terrorism. The first meeting of this subcommittee was held in Jerusalem on 21 November. It convened to intensify dialogue on the above mentioned issues among experts and to set up for this purpose a number of expert meetings. A working group on human rights was agreed as well as a seminar on racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism. The following were also agreed on: a meeting on export control regimes, a working group tasked to look into ways to foster co-operation in international organisations and, in the field of fighting terrorism, an expert meeting on terrorist financing and money-laundering, a seminar on the prevention of radicalisation and terrorist recruitment, and a discussion on the respect for human rights in the fight against terrorism.

2006 should see further steps in the concretisation of the commitments taken in the ENP Action Plan, notably with the holding of the meetings agreed in the "Political dialogue and co-operation" subcommittee. This should prepare the sixth EU-Israel Association Council which will take place after the parliamentary elections in Israel on 28 March 2006 and the constitution of the new government. The Association Council should make an analysis of the state of play of bilateral relations and of the implementation of the ENP Action Plan.

Jordan

With Jordan relations continued to develop smoothly and consultations remained very close, notably on the situation in the Middle East. The Protocol to the Association Agreement providing for the accession of the ten new EU Member States was signed on 31 May in the margins of the Euro-Mediterranean Conference in Luxembourg⁹⁸. The adoption of the European Neighbourhood Action Plan was officially agreed through a Recommendation of the EU-Jordan Association Council on 9 June⁹⁹. Jordan has been looking forward to the Action Plan as a means of supporting on-going reform processes in the political and economic field. The Association Committee on 23 June in Brussels looked at ways of implementing the ENP Action Plan.

⁹⁸ OJ L 283 of 26.10.2005

⁹⁹ OJ L 228 of 3 September 2005

It held an exchange of views on human rights, democracy and governance and political reforms in Jordan ("National Agenda"), as well as on regional issues, notably the situation in the Middle East and in Iraq. The first meeting of the EU-Jordan "subcommittee on human rights, democracy and governance", the first to be set up with a Southern Mediterranean partner, was held in Amman on 5 June. It allowed for deep discussions on a number of areas agreed in the ENP Action Plan, including key issues identified in Jordan's political reform agenda (reform of the laws relating to the political parties and to the elections), the strengthening of the independence of the media, the development of civil society, the promotion of women and Jordan's commitments under international human rights instruments. The fourth session of the EU-Jordan Association Council on 21 November in Brussels constituted a welcome opportunity for looking at the achievements under the ENP Action Plan and Jordan's "National Agenda" for reform. The political dialogue focused on regional and international issues, including the fight against terrorism, following the deadly triple terrorist attacks in Amman on 9 November.

Following the reshuffle of the Jordanian government at the end of November 2005 and the finalisation of Jordan's national reform agenda, 2006 will be a key year for the implementation of the objectives set by the King and the government in the perspective of the legislative elections planned for 2007. The EU, through the ENP Action Plan, will be ready to assist in that process.

Syria

Throughout 2005, the Council has been supportive of the UN action with regard to the implementation of UNSC Resolution 1559 (2004) on the restoration of Lebanon's sovereignty and UNSC Resolution 1595 (2005) on the international investigation into the assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri, asking from Syria that it fully complies with its international obligations and co-operates unconditionally in the UN enquiry. Council conclusions to this effect were adopted on 16 March, 25 April, 18 July and 7 November as well as at the European Council on 15/16 December. The Council has also called on Syria to take action to promote regional stability, in particular with regard to Lebanon, Iraq and the Middle East Peace Process. Moreover, the Council is concerned about the human rights situation in Syria.

Subject to fulfilment of its international obligations and a positive Syrian contribution to regional stability, the Council recalled its readiness for a full and productive relationship with Syria and the deepening of the relationship.

Gulf Cooperation Council

The 15th EU-GCC Joint Council and Ministerial Meeting took place in Manama, Bahrain on 5 April 2005. The discussions covered a wide range of subjects, including the prospects for implementation of the EU Strategic Partnership with the Mediterranean and the Middle East, political issues of mutual interest such as the situation in Iran and Iraq, the Middle East peace process, human rights, counter-terrorism and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. In preparation for the Joint Council and Ministerial meeting, EU and GCC officials met in Brussels on 8 March in the Joint Cooperation Committee and for a political dialogue meeting on 9 March 2005.

The negotiations on a Free Trade Agreement continued and gained momentum in 2005 after the Joint Council and Ministerial Meeting . Despite major efforts it was not possible to finalise negotiations in 2005. Negotiations on provisions concerning human rights, the fight against terrorism and cooperation in non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction progressed significantly with agreement in principle on these provisions. Amongst the main trade-related issues still under discussion were services and public procurement.

7. ASIA-OCEANIA

a) South Asia

The whole of South Asia was the subject of growing attention from the EU during 2005. This resulted in the holding of an expert meeting on the region in Brussels on 15 November 2005, aimed at contributing to the development of a strategic approach to the region. This was in follow-up to the Council conclusions (on India) of 11 October 2004 ¹⁰⁰.

¹⁰⁰ doc. 12767/04.

Afghanistan

The EU continued to address the challenges identified in the European Security Strategy concerning Afghanistan (rebuilding State institutions, counter-narcotics). The holding of parliamentary and provincial elections on 18 September 2005, was a major milestone in the development of the country, marking completion of the process launched at Bonn in December 2001. The EU sent a large Election Observation Mission for this vote, headed by Emma Bonino MEP, which produced a useful report on democracy-building in Afghanistan. Following election of the parliament, the EU and Afghanistan agreed on a Joint Declaration, "Committing to a new EU-Afghan Partnership" (14519/05), signed at a meeting in the premises of the European Parliament in Strasbourg on 16 November 2006. This document set out common priorities, and for the first time established formal political dialogue with Afghanistan. The EU's positions and activities were also reflected in the content of two sets of Council conclusions adopted in July and December 2005. The activities of the EU Special Representative, Francesc Vendrell, are covered elsewhere in this report; expenditure related to his mandate amounted to approximately € 1 million from the CFSP budget.

India

The EU continued to develop relations with India befitting its position as one of the six Strategic Partners identified by the European Security Strategy. The sixth EU-India Summit, in New Delhi on 7 September 2005, was testament to the burgeoning volume and intensity of relations between the two sides. The Summit was the occasion for the publication of a Joint Political Declaration (11985/05), as well as a Joint Action Plan (11984/05) mapping out a common agenda. Preparation of this Action Plan dominated EU-India working relations during 2005, resulting in frequent and productive exchanges in New Delhi and in Brussels. This work continued after the Summit, with the holding of a Senior Officials Meeting in London, on 3 October 2005. This was followed by sectoral meetings such as the human rights dialogue in New Delhi on 1 December 2005, and a meeting on counter-terrorism in Brussels on 12 December 2005. The Presidency also arranged a seminar in New Delhi to brief Indian officials on working with the EU.

Pakistan

The EU continued its efforts to develop relations with Pakistan as a strategically important partner country. Unfortunately, the bilateral agenda continued to be overshadowed by the failure of the two sides to reach agreement on readmission of illegal residents. Regrettably, this continued to prevent implementation of the 2001 Cooperation Agreement, including the establishment of a formal political dialogue. In spite of this, the EU maintained the previous practice of ad hoc contacts. This resulted in a meeting of an EU ministerial Troika with Foreign Minister Kasuri, in Luxembourg on 27 April 2005, and a meeting of an EU Troika of Political Directors with Foreign Secretary Khan in Islamabad on 27 September 2005. The EU's attention regarding Pakistan was additionally, and tragically, heightened by the earthquake that hit Pakistan and India on 8 October 2005. This provoked the holding of an extraordinary meeting of the External Relations Council in Luxembourg on 18 October 2005, as well as a statement by the European Council on 27 October 2005. The EU moved swiftly and decisively after this disaster to provide a most substantial assistance package.

Nepal

The declaration by King Gyanendra of a state of emergency on 1 February 2005 was cause for alarm within the EU. The subsequent deterioration in the situation in Nepal led the EU to issue no fewer than nine declarations during 2005. The EU strongly condemned the decision by the King, the Government of Nepal and the Security Forces to use force and suppress the Nepalese people's exercise of fundamental rights. At the same time, the EU strongly condemned ongoing Maoist violence. EU disquiet finally resulted in the sending of a Troika of EU Regional Directors to Kathmandu, 4-6 October 2005. This was the second such visit within ten months, and was the occasion for the EU to express its concerns in the clearest possible terms to the government, political parties and civil society. On 16 November, the Presidency briefed interested MEPs from the Delegation for relations with the countries of South Asia and SAARC. Following the Troika visit, a donor conference was organised in London on 18 November 2005, to consider the implications of the deteriorating environment for development.

Bhutan

The EU continued to support the work of UNHCR in caring for the 100 000 uprooted people of contested nationality in the refugee camps of East Nepal. The EU continued to express its concern to the Government of Bhutan concerning the need to resolve the situation of these people.

Sri Lanka

As in previous years, the main preoccupation of the Council throughout 2005 remained the conflict between the government in Colombo and the LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam). The EU (represented by both Presidency and Commission) continued its participation as a Co-Chair of the process launched at the 2003 Tokyo Conference on Reconstruction and Development in Sri Lanka. As such, the EU continued to offer wholehearted and unanimous support to Norway in its difficult and often thankless role of facilitator. In order to ensure the coherence of EU policy in support of this process, the Commission organised a very useful expert meeting on 11 May 2005. Later in the year, the EU sent an Election Observation Mission under John Cushnahan (former MEP), to monitor the Presidential election on 17 November 2005.

Bangladesh

The EU continued to harbour serious concerns about the deteriorating security and political situation in Bangladesh, as expressed in previous statements. This led to the organisation by the Commission, the US State Department and the World Bank of an international donor meeting in Washington DC on 23-24 February 2005. A number of EU Member States also participated in this. The aim of the meeting was to agree how best to assist Bangladesh in addressing its fundamental and increasing challenges in the field of governance. Within a few months, the need for decisive action was cruelly highlighted by the detonation of around 500 bombs across the country on 17 August 2005. In the wake of this attack the EU stepped up its monitoring of the situation in Bangladesh, and decided to send (in 2006) a Troika of EU Regional Directors to visit Dhaka, to deliver a number of targeted messages to government, opposition and civil society.

Maldives

After the shock of the Indian Ocean Tsunami, it was a considerable challenge for the Government of the Maldives to organise parliamentary elections on 22 January 2005 (postponed from 31 December 2004).

An EU Presidency statement issued shortly afterwards recognised the generally encouraging moves towards reform then being made by the Government of the Maldives. During 2005 the EU continued to follow the situation in the archipelago through EU Heads of Mission in Colombo. Unfortunately, progress in implementing a reform agenda proved to be uneven, and on 12-14 August 2005 disturbances erupted on the islands. EU concerns over government action and civil unrest were expressed in a declaration of 8 September 2005.

b) South East Asia

ASEAN and ARF

The biannual EU-ASEAN Ministerial meeting took place in Jakarta / Indonesia in March and saw a more active exchange of views than on previous occasions, inter alia on Burma/Myanmar and cross-straits relations. Furthermore, the EC's proposal to put in place a mechanism for bilateral dialogue on non-trade issues (READI) as provided for in the EC's communication "A New Partnership for South-East Asia" was endorsed.

The ARF (ASEAN Regional Forum) remained of great importance for dialogue and cooperation on security issues in the Asia Pacific region. The EU participated actively in the ARF Ministerial Meeting held in July in Laos at which SG/HR Solana led the EU delegation, as well as in the two Inter-sessional Group Meetings on Confidence-Building Measures (ISG on CBMs), that were held in May in Laos and in October in Honolulu (USA). The EU welcomed the further strengthening of this Forum through the reinforcement of confidence-building measures by preventive diplomacy at the latter of those Inter-sessions Group Meetings and continued to encourage the intensification of practical cooperation in tackling common threats and problems. Due to the bomb attacks in London and Sharm El-Shekh in July 2005, discussions on terrorism and counter-measures dominated the ARF Ministerial meeting.

ASEM

After the Hanoi Summit on 8 and 9 October 2004, where ASEM enlargement was agreed, 2005 was devoted to taking stock and reflecting on the functioning and the future of the forum. The theme of the "future of ASEM" was one of the main themes for reflection at the ASEM Foreign Ministers meeting, which took place in Kyoto, Japan, on 5 and 6 May 2005.

The total lack of progress in the transition to democracy as well as in the human rights situation in Burma/Myanmar continued to overshadow the work of ASEM: as a follow up to the “Hanoi Declaration on Closer Economic Partnership”, an Economic Ministers meeting was scheduled for September 2005. But it was held at Senior Official level, due to the refusal by the ministers of ASEAN countries to attend the meeting. They intended to protest against the decision not to grant an entry visa to a Burmese Minister, whose name appeared on the visa-ban list on the EU Common Position on Burma/Myanmar.

Burma/Myanmar

The EU continued to express its serious concern at the situation in the country and urged the Burmese authorities to restore democracy, pursue national reconciliation and respect human rights. The EU called for the inclusiveness and the transparency of the National Convention. The EU did not send a Troika to visit the country in 2005.

In April 2005, the Council extended the EU's Common Position on Burma/Myanmar renewing restrictive measures for a further twelve months ¹⁰¹, and decided to keep the evolution of the political situation in the country under close scrutiny. The EU also confirmed its readiness to react proportionately to developments in Burma/Myanmar, either positive or negative. The EU called on several occasions for the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, who had to spend her 60th birthday on 19 June 2005 under house arrest, and of other political prisoners.

At political dialogue meetings, the Council invited Asian partners to use their influence on the Burmese authorities to promote change, and welcomed the initiative by ASEAN countries to send the Malaysian Foreign Minister on a visit to Myanmar on behalf of ASEAN. On the initiative of the EU, the situation in Burma was a major topic both at the EU-ASEAN Ministerial (March) and the ARF (Vientiane, July). In the margins of the ARF Ministerial, ASEAN Ministers noted the fact that the Government of Myanmar had decided to relinquish its turn to be the Chair of ASEAN in 2006.

¹⁰¹ Common Position 2005/340/DFSP, OJ L 108, 29.4.2005, p. 88.

The Council fully endorsed the efforts of the UN Secretary General in Burma and his call to the Burmese authorities to allow his Special Envoy, Tan Sri Ismail Razali with whom SG/HR Solana met in March, to return to Burma/Myanmar as soon as possible. It was noted that the Special Envoy had stepped down later in 2005 due to the lack of access to the country. Council working groups also received the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, Mr. Paulo Sergio Pinheiro.

The EU further introduced a resolution on Burma in the UNGA Third Committee and in the CHR.

Indonesia

In 2005, the EU and Indonesia continued to build a closer partnership through their strengthened political dialogue (a Ministerial meeting took place in Jakarta in March) and the EU's involvement with the Aceh Monitoring Mission (AMM) supporting the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Government of Indonesia and the Free Aceh Movement (GAM) on 15 August. The Council welcomed the impressive progress achieved in the Aceh Peace process and on several occasions commended the considerable political will displayed by both parties through GAM decommissioning and demobilization as well as TNI and Police withdrawals.

The Council sees this first ESDP mission in Asia as a strong and tangible expression of the EU's commitment to peace and stability in Asia. The successful mission also adds an important new dimension to the increasingly close EU-ASEAN cooperation through the involvement of 5 ASEAN Member States (Brunei, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand) within AMM. This has paved the way for possible further EU-ASEAN cooperation in the field of joint crisis management and led to an unprecedented quality of operational contacts.

The EU reaffirmed the importance it attaches to the protection and promotion of human rights in Indonesia, also in the context of the fight against terrorism.

c) East Asia

East Asia has been a region of especially dynamic change. In response, and building upon the Security Strategy of 2003, the EU has worked to adopt a coordinated and coherent approach across the full range of activities, which will contribute to the framework of CFSP and ESDP in the region.

China

China and the EU intensified and expanded their strategic relations in 2005. At the Eighth Summit, held in Beijing on 5 September 2005, the EU and China celebrated the 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations. The two sides endorsed a number of joint texts and statements on issues such as labour, space, science and technology, energy, transport, bio-diversity. They also issued a joint declaration on climate change. On 12 December 2005 the Council adopted a negotiating mandate for a Partnership and Co-operation Agreement which should replace the existing 1985 Trade and Co-operation Agreement.

The EU held several political-dialogue meetings with Chinese interlocutors, discussing a broad range of issues including the situation in the Middle East, Iraq, the Korean Peninsula, Burma, the fight against terrorism, disarmament and non-proliferation, illegal migration and transnational crime, and human rights. The EU praised the crucial role played by China in the Six-Party Talks on the Korean Peninsula. The EU also pursued its co-operation with China in the multilateral framework, including in ASEM and the ARF. At the end of 2005 a strategic dialogue with China at Vice-Ministerial level was launched in London. It will continue on an annual basis.

The EU human rights dialogue with China saw two rounds being held, in Luxembourg in February and in Beijing in October. The EU raised, on these and several other occasions, its concerns over a wide range of human rights problems, and stressed three areas in particular in which it wished to see progress: 1) release of the remaining 1989 prisoners; 2) ratification of ICCPR and a timetable to that end; 3) reform of re-education through the labour system and other forms of administrative detention.

On 15 March 2005, in a Presidency statement, the EU took note of the adoption of an "anti-secession law" by the National People's Congress and voiced, *inter alia*, its concern that this legislation referring to the use of non-peaceful means could invalidate the recent signs of reconciliation between the two shores.

The question of the arms embargo on China remained open. At the European Council on 16 and 17 June 2005, the Heads of State and Government welcomed the progress made on the revision of the code of conduct and the "toolbox" and invited the Council to continue its work on that basis.

Japan

Close cooperation between the EU and Japan continued during 2005. A successful Summit was held in Luxembourg on 2 May 2005, which was followed by two Ministerial Meetings held respectively in Kyoto in May and in New York in September. The Summit addressed specific areas for future action and cooperation, notably on the basis of the 2001 EU-Japan Action Plan. 2005 also saw the organisation of more than 1600 initiatives (both in Japan and the EU) within the framework of the Year for EU-Japan people-to-people contacts. In the European Security Strategy, adopted by the European Council in December 2003, the EU committed itself to establishing a strategic partnership with Japan, as one of the key countries sharing its objectives and values. In line with this, the EU and Japan launched a strategic dialogue on East Asia in September 2005.

Korean Peninsula

The Union continued to follow very closely and with great concern developments in the Korean Peninsula, and notably the DPRK's nuclear programme, which poses a serious threat to regional and global security. A fourth round of talks held in September issued a joint statement in which the DPRK undertook to abandon nuclear weapons and all existing nuclear programmes and to return to the NPT. Concrete progress after that was however disappointing. The Union also continued to voice its concern over the human rights situation in the DPRK and tabled resolutions on that at the Commission on Human Rights as well as at the UNGA.

8. AFRICA

Common Position on conflict prevention, management and resolution in Africa

At its meeting on 12 April 2005, the Council adopted a revised Common Position on conflict prevention, management and resolution in Africa. The Common Position states that the EU shall contribute to the prevention, management and resolution of violent conflicts in Africa by strengthening African capacity and means of action in this field, in particular through enhanced dialogue with and support for the AU and sub-regional organisations and initiatives, as well as for civil society organisations. In doing this, the EU shall take further steps to promote coordination between the many actors that may be involved, including a closer coordination of the measures taken by the Community and its Member States, notably in the framework of the Action Plan for ESDP Support for Peace and Security in Africa and the Guidelines for its implementation. The EU shall also, as it strengthens its capacity in the areas of crisis management and conflict prevention, improve its close cooperation with the UN and relevant regional and sub-regional organisations in order to achieve these objectives.

EU Strategy for Africa (The EU and Africa: Towards a Strategic Partnership)

In June, the European Council recalled the importance it attaches to relations between the EU and Africa. It invited the Council to draw up a long-term global strategy towards Africa in the light of the UN Summit with a view to the European Council in December 2005. During the six months leading up to the adoption by the European Council on 15-16 December of an EU Strategy for Africa (The EU and Africa: Towards a Strategic Partnership), intense discussions were going on in the Council based on Commission proposals, contributions from the SG/HR and from the Member States. The Strategy sets out the steps the EU will take with Africa between now and 2015 to support African efforts to build a prosperous future. It is a strategy for the whole of the EU for the whole of Africa. It takes into account regional and country specific needs and African countries' national strategies. Its primary aims are the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the promotion of sustainable development, security and good governance in Africa. Its core principles are partnership based on international law and human rights, equality and mutual accountability. Its underlying philosophy is African ownership and responsibility, including working through African institutions.

Work with the AU has already started to transform this into a joint strategy as indicated below under the EU-Africa dialogue.

Regarding peace and security, the strategy aims to

- work with the African Union (AU), sub-regional organisations and African countries to predict, prevent and mediate conflict and to keep the peace in their own continent. The EU will help develop African capabilities, such as the AU's African Standby Force, and will build on existing activities by Member States to provide support;
- Provide direct support to African Union, sub-regional or UN efforts to promote peace and stability through CFSP and ESDP activities, and military and civilian crisis management missions, including potential deployment of EU battlegroups;
- Enhance the EU support for post-conflict reconstruction in Africa in order to secure lasting peace and development. The UE will support in particular the new UN Peace building Commission, the strengthening of fragile states, Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration and Security Sector Reform programmes in African states;
- Redouble EU efforts to stem the illicit flow of weapons, including small arms, encourage others to adopt minimum common standards and associate themselves with the EU Code of Conduct on arms exports, discourage transfers which contribute to instability, develop ways to share and act on information on illegal trafficking and support border management controls and an international arms trade treaty;
- Join with African states to counter terrorism worldwide. The EU will provide technical assistance, enhanced information sharing and support to the AU Anti-Terrorism Centre in Algiers and continue to support the implementation of international counter-terrorism agreements.

Peace Facility

The EU continued to give its full support to the efforts of the UN and the AU, as well as of regional leaders and other parties, aimed at sustaining the efforts for peace in the region. Use of the funds from the Peace Facility is described under Sudan and the Central African Republic. Contributions have also been made for AU capacity building.

Political Dialogue

The political dialogue has become a permanent feature of EU action in the ACP countries in conformity with Article 8 of the Cotonou Agreement, under which a dialogue is regularly conducted in a continuous, structured but flexible manner. Local Heads of Mission are instructed to agree locally on a series of themes, including urgent and topical issues, to be discussed in the framework of political dialogue over a period of successive EU presidencies. The political dialogue should be comprehensive, i.e. cover a sufficiently broad set of issues and be conducted with a sufficiently large spectrum of actors, including civil society.

The troika held meetings (at expert level) with other partners on African issues. Specifically, two meetings were held with the United States and one with Canada. At those meetings the situation in areas at risk of conflict and countries in transition (Great Lakes region, Mano River Union, Côte d'Ivoire, Sudan and the Horn of Africa) were discussed, as well as possibilities for cooperation and coordination between the various international players. As a reflection of the growing interest shown by China in African affairs, a dialogue with China was also opened.

The Europe-Africa dialogue continued during 2005. In April a troika meeting at ministerial level, in which the High Representative/Secretary-General took part, was held in Luxemburg. The meeting discussed in detail the four pillars of the Europe-Africa dialogue (peace and security, governance, economic integration and trade and key development issues). A second ministerial troika meeting was held in Bamako, Mali in December, preceded by a senior officials' meeting. At that meeting, the different conflict situations in Africa were discussed. The EU also provided information on the EU Strategy for Africa scheduled for adoption by the European Council a few weeks later. Both sides agreed to transform this into a joint Africa-EU Strategy and develop an action plan for its implementation.

Ministers also agreed to launch a comprehensive dialogue on migration issues and organise an Africa-EU joint ministerial conference dedicated to migration. The African delegation expressed its wish for a Europe-Africa summit to be held as soon as possible.

In the context of a continued comprehensive dialogue between the EU and the **Southern African Development Community (SADC)**, the joint EU-SADC Steering Committee met in Johannesburg on 20 June 2005. The meeting discussed recent developments in the region including Zimbabwe, issues of peace and security, economic trade and integration and the format of the continued dialogue between the EU and SADC.

ECOWAS

The dialogue with ECOWAS intensified over the year. Two troika meetings at ministerial level, preceded by senior officials' meetings, were held in May (in Luxembourg) and in November (in Niamey).

In September 2005, the EU agreed on the updated strategy for West Africa (coreu LON/0828/05). Common Position 2005/304/CFSP of 12 April 2005, concerning conflict prevention, management and resolution in Africa, stressed the importance of developing a long-term conflict prevention strategy and of enhancing the capacity of African organisations and states to contribute to peace and security. Thus, the revised West Africa Strategy aimed at further defining the main ways in which the EU could support conflict prevention, management and resolution in the region. It is built on a reinforced political dialogue on the basis of the Common Position concerning Conflict Prevention and the Cotonou Agreement and should allow for a coherent and efficient use of all EU instruments at hand. The EU Strategy for West Africa focuses on the relationship between the EU and ECOWAS, the cooperation between EU-UN in the region and internal EU coordination.

The strategy seeks a regional approach to the cross-border problems afflicting the region, such as child soldiers, mercenaries, small arms and light weapons, refugee flows and incorrect exploitation of natural resources. The strategy recognises the role of ECOWAS as a stabilising force in the region and establishes reinforced dialogue and cooperation with ECOWAS and with the AU and the United Nations.

Following the Communiqué of the Sixth ECOWAS-EU Ministerial Troika meeting held in Accra (Ghana) on 8 November 2004, a working group composed of representatives from the ECOWAS Secretariat, the EU and UNOWA, met in Dakar (Senegal) on 14 –15 April 2005. They prepared a list of recommendations for a Trilateral Framework for Action for peace and Security which was endorsed at the EU-ECOWAS Ministerial Troika held in Luxemburg on 18 May 2005 to which UNOWA was also invited.

EU-ECOWAS cooperation in capacity-building was intensified. The EU expressed its willingness to take the role of the leading partner for the African Standby Force Workshop (in the framework of the AU/SRO's roadmap) which is planned to take place in April 2006 in Abuja, under the auspices of ECOWAS.

Mano River Union

Throughout 2005, Mr Dahlgren continued his mandate as Presidency Special Representative (PSR) for the Mano River Union with the aim of promoting lasting solutions to the conflicts in the Mano River region in a close dialogue with local, regional and international players. Mr Dahlgren also visited Monrovia on the day of the elections and met with the two main presidential candidates (Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and George Weah).

As co-Chairman of the International Contact Group on the Mano River Basin (ICG MRB), the PSR continued to promote a coordinated approach among the international community in support of internal, regional and sub-regional initiatives for peace and reconciliation as well as confidence-building activities in the region.

The PSR also participated in the European Union's discussion with Guinea, a country with which the European Union is holding consultations under Article 96 of the Cotonou Agreement. In March 2005, the PSR joined a visit by an EU delegation (Presidency, Commission and Council Secretariat) to Conakry on 15 March 2005, where he held meetings with the Prime Minister, members of the government, opposition members, civil society and other international partners in the country. He revisited Conakry in October 2005 and met with the government's Comité de suivi (in charge of implementing the commitments made under Art.96) , the Prime Minister and opposition leaders.

Angola

During 2005 the political dialogue between the EU and Angola has continued in the framework of Article 8 of the Cotonou Agreement. It has taken place between the local EU troika and the Angolan authorities. Subjects dealt with were economic and social governance and the government's strategy for combating poverty.

Burundi

The year saw big changes in Burundi. It was a year marked by elections and a return to more peaceful times. The EU followed closely the developments in Burundi in 2005 and reaffirmed its commitment to assist the country. The EU welcomed the successful holding of the referendum on 28 February 2005, hailing it as a crucial step on the road towards restoring peace and stability in Burundi and in the entire Great Lakes region. In March the SG/HR met with President Domitien Ndayizeye of Burundi in Brussels and discussed items of peace and security (Security Sector Reform and Demobilisation, Disarmament and Reintegration) and the political process following the successful organisation of the referendum. Regional and economic questions were also discussed. The EU observed the National Assembly elections on 4 July and welcomed their peaceful conduct. They were called an important step towards democracy and durable peace. On 19 August presidential elections took place in Burundi. In this context the EU reiterated its commitment to continue its support to Burundi as it builds a peaceful, democratic and prosperous future and looks forward to working with the new government on the key issues of development, reconstruction, justice and human rights. On 7 December, the SG/HR met with the new President Pierre Nkurunziza in Brussels and discussed new priorities for the country, namely primary education and the fight against corruption and reconciliation. The problems with the last remaining rebel movement, the FNL, were touched upon, as was the future of the UN operation in the country.

Chad

The situation in Chad was followed with attention, particularly with respect to the internal political situation and the risks posed by the deteriorating relations with Sudan in connection with the Darfur conflict.

On 9 October, Secretary General/High Representative Javier Solana visited Chad for discussions with President Idriss Deby, addressing the Darfur conflict and the initiatives taken by Chad to overcome the differences between the Darfur rebel movements in order to ensure progress at the Abuja talks. The Secretary General/High Representative received President Deby in Brussels on 23 November, again with the Darfur conflict as the main topic of the discussions. The EUSR for Sudan also visited Chad, encouraging the government to use its influence on the Darfur rebel movements to advance the Abuja talks.

Central African Republic

The EU closely followed the final phase of the process of transition towards a return to constitutional order, and in particular, the general elections held on 13 March, with a second round on 8 May. Following the elections, the Presidency issued a declaration on 8 June on behalf of the EU, taking note of their results and congratulating the population, civil society and political parties for their desire to peacefully seek solutions to the country's problems. The EU further invites all parties concerned and President Bozizé to cooperate in drawing up the reforms needed to enable the country to restore a climate of confidence and peace in strict respect for human rights. On the same occasion, the EU declared its determination to resume full and complete cooperation with the Central African Republic in the framework of the Cotonou Agreement.

In June, the Council gave political endorsement to a request from the Communauté Economique et Monétaire de l'Afrique Centrale (CEMAC) for a contribution of EUR 8 million under the Peace Facility to the financing of the Force Multinationale (FOMUC), which maintains a peace-keeping operation in the Central African Republic. The request followed the decision to prolong the mandate of FOMUC for a year, to 30 June 2006, in order to support the consolidation of the constitutional order. In 2004, the EU had granted EUR 3.5 million to FOMUC, also from the Peace Facility.

Côte d'Ivoire

The EU has repeatedly commended the mediation efforts undertaken by the African Union and by ECOWAS in Côte d'Ivoire in 2005. The inability to hold the presidential elections which were scheduled for 30th October 2005 under the Pretoria agreement, led to the adoption of Resolution 1633 of the United Nations Security Council on Côte d'Ivoire with a roadmap for credible elections before 31 October 2006.

As a member of the International Working Group for Côte d'Ivoire, mandated by the UNSC to oversee the process, the EU has taken on a specific responsibility in the transition. In December 2005 the EU welcomed the nomination of the new Prime Minister, and agreed to continue to press all the parties to make progress on the peace and reconciliation process..

In all its deliberations with Ivorian and third partners and through its participation in the International Contact Group for Côte d'Ivoire, the EU insists that the holding of free and transparent elections is the cornerstone of the reconciliation process in Côte d'Ivoire and has repeatedly appealed to Ivorians to make every effort and to cooperate fully with the international community, particularly with the United Nations, to ensure that elections will take place within the timeframe set by the UN.

The European Union has also stressed the importance of carrying out concomitantly the DDR (disarmament, demobilization and reintegration) and "identification and voter registration" processes, and of the urgent need to dismantle the militias in order to allow the holding of elections within the agreed timeframe. The EU has expressed its willingness to underpin any progress that may be made in disarming the factions and its readiness to grant its support for organising the elections.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

On 2 May, the Council adopted Joint Action 2005/355/CFSP on the EU mission to provide advice and assistance for security sector reform in the DRC with the aim of contributing to a successful integration of the army in the DRC (EUSEC DRS). On 1 December, the Council adopted Joint Action 2005/868/CFSP amending Joint Action 2005/355/CFSP on the EU mission to provide advice and assistance for security sector reform in the DRC with regard to setting up a technical assistance project on improving the chain of payments of the Ministry of Defence in the DRC. An EU Police Mission, EUPOL Kinshasa, was launched on 12 April following the adoption on 9 December 2004 of Joint Action 2004/847/CFSP¹⁰². EUPOL KINSHASA was extended in November 2005¹⁰³.

¹⁰² Joint Action 2004/847/CFSP of 9 December 2004, OJ L 367, 14.12.2004, p. 30.

¹⁰³ Joint Action 2005/822/CFSP of 21 November 2005, OJ L 305, 24.11.2005, p. 44.

The Council has continued to follow and discuss regularly the situation in the DRC during the year. On 30 April the SG/HR Solana and Commissioner Michel visited Kinshasa and had meetings with President Kabila and the vice-presidents and presidents of the Senate and the National Assembly. They discussed the content of the new constitution, the prolongation of the transition period and the security situation. When the Constitution was adopted by the National Assembly on 14 May it was greeted by the Presidency and the SG/HR as an important step forward in the democratic process of the country.

On 24 June the EU took note of the decision by the two chambers of the Parliament to extend the transition period for six months as from 1.7.05. While noting this, the EU underlined the importance of respecting the new election timetable and to step up preparations for the elections and other aspects of the transition.

On 22 December the EU congratulated the Congolese people on the successful holding of a referendum on the new Congolese constitution on 18 December 2005. The result suggested a strong endorsement of the draft constitution and underlined the desire of the Congolese people for completion of the transition period to full democratic government as soon as possible. Preparing for the elections, the EU through the EDF is providing 149 million €, of which 24 million has been earmarked for securing the elections.

During the year the EU has also continued its support to the Security Sector Reform in the DRC. It has continued its support to MONUC in its mission in the country and it has continued to work, also through the EUSR Aldo Ajello, to find a solution to the continued situation of unrest in the eastern DRC caused by the FDLR, which is still active.

During the year, the EU has continued to press for the promotion and protection of human rights in the DRC. In August, the EU lobbied the government on the protection of human rights defenders, and followed this up on 17 October with a public statement on freedom of expression. The EU contributed to the UNGA human rights resolution on DRC in September, condemning the ongoing violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, and urging the Congolese government to put an end to impunity.

Equatorial Guinea

As a result of the human rights situation in Equatorial Guinea the Country Strategy Paper (CSP) of the 9th EDF has not been signed until now. The improvements in this field suggest that the CSP and National Indicative Program will be signed in the near future. The dialogue with the government of Equatorial Guinea has had as a result that the focal sector of the national indicative programme under the 9th EDF will be concentrated on the improvement of the Human Rights situation in the country, an approach that has been agreed by the government in Malabo, the opposition and the civil society.

The programming of the 10th EDF, which is starting now, will provide further opportunities to support the good governance and human rights in Equatorial Guinea.

Article 9 of the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement, of which Equatorial Guinea is a member, provides for the respect of human rights and democratic principles as an essential element of the Agreement. Article 96 allows for a country to be called for consultations when a party fails to fulfil its obligations. Should the democratisation process be endangered, the European Union could consider the application of these articles.

Eritrea

The human rights situation in Eritrea continues to be of particular concern. Issues such as the detention of members of religious groups, freedom of the press and the situation of political detainees have been raised with the Eritrean authorities by EU representatives. However, regular political dialogue has not registered progress in the absence of a set of agreed terms of reference.

Demarches were conducted on the issues of Eritrea's ratification of the Rome Statute for the International Criminal Court (ICC) and concerning Eritrea's position on supporting EU initiatives at the UN Council of Human Rights.

The EUSR for Sudan visited Eritrea on 14-16 December for consultations on the Darfur conflict and the situation in Eastern Sudan.

Ethiopia

The Parliamentary elections on 15 May and the resulting political situation dominated relations with Ethiopia. The EU stated its position on the electoral process and the events marking the aftermath of the elections through several declarations. Equally, the Article 8 political dialogue, which continued regularly with frequent meetings between EU Heads of Mission in Addis Ababa and the Ethiopian government, which on some occasions was represented at the highest level, focussed on issues relating to governance and democratisation. Among the other questions addressed were the border dispute with Eritrea in particular, and the situation in the Gambella region.

In the run-up to the elections, the local EU troika conducted a demarche on 6 May to welcome the competitive electoral campaign and a number of other positive steps towards democracy. Concern was however expressed at certain developments that could endanger or reverse these gains. After the vote, the EU congratulated the people of Ethiopia on the calm and dignified way in which the elections were conducted, describing them as an important step in the process of democratisation. On 26 May, Secretary General/High Representative Javier Solana met in Addis Ababa with Prime Minister Meles and opposition representatives, conveying the need to respect a fair and credible electoral process and for government and opposition to engage in dialogue.

Following the outbreak of violence at the beginning of June, the EU urged the government and the security forces to show restraint and to respect international human rights. A similar message was given by the SG/HR and by the EU representatives in Addis Ababa. On the occasion of the joint government-opposition declaration signed on 10 June, the EU welcomed the commitment to make every effort to avoid violence and to resolve differences by peaceful and legal means, stressing that all parties should be able to act free of intimidations and threats and offering to provide full support for the process under way. Similarly, in a joint statement with the US issued on 14 July, the EU urged all parties to abide by their commitments, renouncing all use of violence and any action likely to further increase tension, and to work together for political dialogue and reconciliation.

Throughout the post-electoral political crisis, the EU has been actively engaged in attempts to foster dialogue between the government and the opposition in order to resolve the crisis through constitutional and parliamentary means, based on a commitment to multi-party democracy and the rule of law. With this objective, and in the framework of the Article 8 dialogue, EU representatives raised with the Ethiopian authorities issues such as the investigations into electoral complaints, the access to state media, the procedures for Parliament, the need to respect human rights and for an investigation into the post-electoral violence, among other issues. Heads of Mission in Addis Ababa also met with representatives of the opposition on several occasions. Similarly, the SG/HR maintained regular contacts with Prime Minister Meles.

Following the new upsurge of violence at the beginning of November and the arrests of opposition leaders, editors and journalists, and civil society representatives, on 6 November the EU made clear its deep concern, urging an end to indiscriminate beatings and massive arrests and calling for the release of all political detainees. The EU also demanded that they should have immediate access to visits by their families, legal counsel and appropriate representatives of the international community.

Since then, the EU representatives have repeatedly expressed to the Ethiopian government their strong concerns about the situation of human rights in the country and raised the situation of the detainees. Respect for human rights and the rule of law in general, the release of all detainees arrested after the June and November political demonstrations and respect for the rights of those remaining in detention were key demands, together with the need to cease harassment and open a dialogue with the opposition.

On 17 December, the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Minister for Africa, Lord Triesman, representing the EU Presidency, met in Addis Ababa with Prime Minister Meles and representatives of the opposition parties in Parliament and relatives of the detainees. Lord Triesman stressed the need for the trials against opposition leaders to be transparent and independent and the fact that the international community should be able to monitor them, also requesting international access to the detainees.

Ethiopia-Eritrea

The unresolved border dispute between Ethiopia and Eritrea remains a reason for serious concern for the EU, particularly following the restrictions imposed by Eritrea on the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE). Diplomatic efforts to explore the possibilities to overcome the *impasse* between the two countries continued, for instance through the SG/HR's meetings with the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General, the Special Envoy of the Ethiopian Prime Minister and through his contacts with Prime Minister Meles. The regular Article 8 political dialogue with both Ethiopia and Eritrea also focussed to a large extent on the border question. The EU representatives expressed concerns on several occasions over the military build-up at the border and stressed the need to fully respect the Algiers Agreement, to implement without delay the ruling of the Boundary Commission and to comply with the UN Security Council Resolutions.

The restrictions on UNMEE that Eritrea progressively imposed from the beginning of October further prompted concerns at the situation. On 12 December, the Council, expressing its grave concern about the volatile situation in the border region, reiterated its full support for Security Council Resolution 1640 (demanding Eritrea to immediately reverse all restrictions imposed on UNMEE, a return to December 2004 levels of troop deployment, and to accept fully the decision of the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission). The Council also expressed its concern at Eritrea's request for withdrawal of the European and North American members of UNMEE, while supporting the UN's demand that Eritrea immediately rescind its decision without preconditions. At the same time, the Council underlined the urgent need for immediate concrete steps to be taken by Ethiopia to enable the Boundary Commission to demarcate the border completely and without delay.

The EU Presidency, represented by the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Minister for Africa, Lord Triesman, on a visit to Addis Ababa on 17 December reiterated the EU's concern over the border issue to Prime Minister Meles and stressed that the decision of the Boundary Commission was final and binding. The Eritrean authorities did not agree to a meeting with Lord Triesman.

The Gambia

Political developments over the past year in the Gambia, culminating in the detention of opposition leaders, have prompted EU and international concern.

The Council viewed the arrests of political leaders as a further step in a process intended to destabilise the opposition in advance of the Presidential elections in 2006 and the elections for the National Assembly in 2007. In firm and clear terms, the Council highlighted its concerns over these arrests to the Government of the Gambia and the importance of the forthcoming elections taking place in a free and fair environment.

Whilst recognising the prerogative of the Gambian authorities to uphold law and order , the Council sent a clear message aiming to place the current situation in context with reference to earlier developments of political concern including instances of harassment of the media. The Council urged the Gambian government to respect press freedom and underlined that continued development support would depend on acceptable levels of political and democratic probity being adhered to.

The Government of the Gambia was urged to abstain from undermining democratic processes ahead of the elections and to respect the press of freedom.

The Council continues to follow closely the evolution of the political situation in the Gambia leading up to the elections in 2006 and 2007.

Guinea-Bissau

The EU has been highly committed to the democratisation process in Guinea-Bissau. An EU election observation mission (EU EOM) was deployed throughout the country for the first and second round of the presidential elections, and concluded that elections were free and fair , and generally well administered. At the announcement of the results the EU has called upon the political forces to cooperate and accept the election results, in line with the UN Security Council Presidential Statement.

In October, the period for reinforced dialogue with Guinea Bissau in the framework of Art. 96 consultations expired.

The EU and other African and international partners support the implementation of Security Sector Reform (SSR) in the country. The EU Presidency has carried out a first fact-finding mission to the country to study prospects of undertaking and supporting SSR.

Guinea

The Dialogue between the EU and the Government of Guinea, particularly the Article 96 consultations of the Cotonou agreement, has led to progress on reform. The political consultations under Article 96 were successfully concluded in April 2005. The EU proposed a number of benchmarks that the Guinean government must fulfil. These include resumption of national dialogue with the opposition and civil society, respect of the Constitution and legislation on human rights and fundamental freedoms, holding of local and parliamentary elections in line with the amended electoral arrangements and appointment of elected candidates, continued decentralisation, liberalisation of the electronic media, and continuing measures to enhance macroeconomic management and sectoral reforms. The decision concluding Art. 96 consultations provides for a monitoring period of 36 months, in which progress will be assessed through political dialogue and regular reviews conducted by the Presidency of the EU and the Commission.

Hans Dahlgren's regular missions to Guinea have provided an opportunity to consult with the authorities, representatives of the opposition and civil society. He has been able to recall EU positions on the most pressing issues, particularly the need to make progress on national dialogue, to foster democracy and to restore political liberties.

International Contact Group on the Mano River Basin: the extension of the mandate of the International Contact Group on Liberia to its neighbouring countries has provided a forum for discussing policy options on Guinea among international actors. The EU, co-chairing the Contact Group, is well positioned to ensure that Guinea is addressed properly in its meetings.

Kenya

Internal political developments in Kenya were at the forefront of EU-Kenyan relations. The ongoing political dialogue between EU Heads of Mission with the Kenyan authorities continued, including a meeting of the EU troika with President Kibaki on 2 March. Among the main topics of discussion were good governance, particularly the management of public finances, economic development and the constitutional review process. The EU continues to be concerned at the persistent allegations of high-level corruption and the government's perceived lack of determination in the fight against the phenomenon. EU representatives made clear the vital importance of good governance for economic development, as well as the EU's willingness to continue supporting the government's fight against corruption.

The local Presidency conducted demarches concerning various EU initiatives at the UN Commission for Human Rights and on Kenya's position regarding the International Criminal Court (ICC).

Liberia

The EU was highly involved in support of the elections in Liberia this year which took place on 11 October 2005. Liberians voted for a President, a House of Representatives and a Senate in the first elections to be held in the country since 1997. An EU election observation mission was deployed (EU EOM), which stayed there for both rounds of the elections. The EC was the largest single donor to the elections process (EUR8 million). It supported the return to democracy by contributing to the UN Election trust fund to assist the National Elections Commission, as well as by voter education, sensitisation of the legislature and strengthening civil society through international NGOs. The EU, including the EU Election Observation Mission, and other international observers, welcomed the elections in October and November 2005 as generally well administered, free and fair.

Liberians went to the polls for a second time on the 8th of November 2005 to choose between the two remaining presidential candidates, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf and George Weah. The national electoral commission declared Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf winner of the run-off election on November 23 and she was inaugurated as Liberia's and Africa's first elected female president on January 16 2006.

The Presidency Special Representative, Hans Dahlgren, visited Liberia on the election day and met with the presidential candidates and the National Electoral Commission. In his capacity as co-Chairman of the International Contact Group on Liberia (ICGL), the PSR continued to promote a coordinated approach in 2005 among the international players in support of the peace process in Liberia.

With the conduct of elections, the main condition for revoking the Article 96/97 measures have been met. However, there are still various elements concerning respect for democratic principles, good governance and rule of law as well as economic governance that are not yet guaranteed in Liberia: the Article 96/97 measures have therefore been extended until June 2006. Article 96/97 discussions will take place with the new government in early 2006.

The EU remains committed and continues to monitor the evolution of the political situation in Liberia with optimism.

Mauritania

The situation in Mauritania changed drastically on 3rd August when the military overthrew the President and took power, forming the Military Committee for Justice and Democracy (MCJD), which pledged to ensure a democratic transition within 24 months.

The EU and the international community, although condemning the military coup, have expressed readiness to work with the transitional government constructively for democratisation. The EU subsequently opened consultations with Mauritania in the framework of Article 96 of the Cotonou agreement on 30 November 2005. A transition period has been set for democratic reform and the 24 engagements to which the transitional government of Mauritania agreed include the possible holding of municipal and legislative elections in the second half of 2006. The process should end on the 11 March 2007 with presidential elections. The implementation of these commitments is being closely followed by the EU, which will continue in the course of 2006 to monitor and consult with the Mauritanian Authorities through reinforced political dialogue and periodical monitoring missions to the country.

Mozambique

Following the Parliamentary and Presidential elections in Mozambique on 1-2 December 2004 the EU has continued its political dialogue with the country through the local EU troika under Article 8 of the Cotonou Agreement.

Rwanda

The EU continued the dialogue under Article 8 of the Cotonou Agreement with the government through the year, in particular on abolition of the death penalty, maintenance of stability of Rwandan social structures and the effectiveness of the "Gacaca" system.

Sierra Leone

Following several years of internal conflict, peace and stability are slowly being restored to Sierra Leone. The overall security situation in Sierra Leone has remained generally calm and stable in 2005 with the Government assuming full responsibility for the maintenance of security and peace consolidation in the country. Considerable progress has been seen in the diamond-mining sector in particular with reference to licensing and the substantial increase in the official exports of diamonds. Nevertheless serious challenges remain, such as corruption, governance, widespread poverty and massive youth unemployment.

With regard to the Yenga border dispute, the EU emphasised the importance of an effective border demarcation process as a conflict prevention measure.

The European Parliament first called for Nigeria to surrender Charles Taylor forthwith to the jurisdiction of the Special Court for Sierra Leone: this came from the European Parliament in February 2005 in the form of a resolution, by which the EP also called on the United Nations Security Council to consider the issue as a matter of urgency and urged the UN, the EU and Member States to build international pressure in order to bring about Charles Taylor's extradition. The Taylor issue remains on the agenda in all EU's contacts with African partners, such as West African governments and other African governments and in the framework of the Mano River contact group.

The EU strongly believes and advocates that a satisfactory completion of the work of the Special Court on Sierra Leone will only be achieved once Taylor is held responsible for his involvement in human rights abuses.

Somalia

In view of the difficulties facing the Somali peace and reconciliation process, in particular in connection with the issue of the relocation of the Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs), the EU issued a declaration on 7 April, strongly urging all parties to immediately refrain from any further hostilities and armed confrontations and to return to dialogue. It further insisted on inclusiveness and reconciliation as the two pillars of the Somali peace process and recalled that the Union's readiness to support the transition process was determined by the inclusive approach that led to the successful conclusion of the Somali National Reconciliation Conference. Subsequently, on 12 May, the EU, in a joint statement with the US, welcomed efforts to reach an agreement on the relocation of the TFIs to Somalia, noting that the reconciliation process was at a critical stage with an urgent need for a viable agreement on relocation and security endorsed by the TFIs. The EU and the US urged all Somali parties to continue their efforts towards reconciliation and dialogue and to quickly come to an agreement to facilitate relocation.

On 17 June, the EU issued a declaration welcoming the start of the relocation of the TFIs, noting that these should now establish their priorities and put in place the governance structures needed to rebuild a functional state. It also urged all members of the TFIs to maintain their commitment to the peace process and to work out their differences within that framework. The EU also reiterated its readiness to support the Institutions' relocation to Somalia. On the occasion of the killing of a respected Somali peace activist, on 15 July the EU condemned the killing and reiterated its support to the TFIs as the only framework for peace, stability and governance in Somalia.

The Somali Prime Minister's initiative aimed at overcoming the divisions within the TFIs by seeking to hold regular meetings of the Council of Ministers in Mogadishu also received EU support. Considering the initiative as a very important step towards a truly and fully inclusive dialogue, the EU urged all Somalis to embrace the opportunity afforded by this initiative.

The visit of Somali Prime Minister Ali Mohammed Ghedi to Brussels on 16 November, during which he met with the SG/HR, offered an opportunity to further discuss the internal situation in Somalia and the progress in the peace and reconciliation process, as well as to confirm the EU's readiness to support the legitimate authority of Somalia.

Accordingly, the resolution agreed by Mogadishu-based members of the Parliament expressing readiness to engage in dialogue without preconditions was welcomed by the EU as being in line with the Prime Minister's initiative. In a declaration on 29 November, the EU expressed the wish to see this proposal for dialogue implemented immediately, stressing that the focus of the dialogue should be an early and representative session of Parliament.

In coordination with the rest of the international community, the EU will contribute with effective assistance to Somalia. The EU should, in principle, be ready to support Somali-owned governance and security sector initiatives, which, over time, contribute to creating capacities for managing security threats and facilitating the rule of law. In this context, the EU is ready to consider the possibility of providing support to the development of the police and the judiciary, as well as supporting DDR activities and involvement by the AU in the security sector, when conditions permit and if requested.

South Africa

The EU continued its important political dialogue with South Africa. The dialogue covered national and bilateral issues, regional matters, the AU and NEPAD and international matters. Other issues discussed included peace and security in Africa. South Africa's contribution to peace-keeping efforts in various African countries was recognised by the EU. On 7 November the Joint Cooperation Council took place in Brussels. The meeting agreed to work towards a strategic partnership based on political, trade, development and economic co-operation. The political discussions at the meeting took place in a troika format with the South African Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Dlamini Zuma. During the meeting information was exchanged on Africa's conflict zones. The EU congratulated South Africa on its efforts as mediator, seeking resolution of some of Africa's most dangerous conflicts, notably in the Great Lakes region and in the Côte d'Ivoire. Zimbabwe was also discussed. The SG/HR visited South Africa on 29 April and had meetings with President Mbeki and the government.

Sudan

The situation in Sudan, and particularly the unresolved Darfur conflict, continued to be of absolute priority for the EU. The appointment of an EU Special Representative for Sudan has strengthened the Union's engagement in the Darfur conflict and more broadly in the implementation of the North/South peace agreement in Sudan.

Following the signature of the comprehensive peace agreement (CPA) on 9 January, the EU appealed to the Sudanese government and the Sudan Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A) to rapidly to implement the agreement in full, reiterating its support for the international efforts to consolidate the agreement. Throughout the year, the EU closely followed the implementation of the CPA, expressing on several occasions its points of view on various aspects of the implementation, and underlining its readiness to support it politically and by providing financial and technical assistance. On 23 May, noting progress made in implementing the CPA, the Council stated that implementation of the agreement and the launch of an inclusive democratic process, together with developments in Darfur, are decisive for EU-Sudan relations. On 9 July, the EU welcomed the inauguration of the Presidency of the new Government of National Unity (GNU) as a vital step in implementing the CPA, reiterating the need to ensure that implementation of the Agreement is a fully inclusive process. On 23 September the EU was able to welcome the formation of the GNU, calling on it to move forward quickly with other aspects of the implementation of the CPA, including as a first step the establishment of the Assessment and Evaluation Commission (AEC) to monitor progress on this. Subsequently, after it had been established on 30 October, the EU urged the parties to ensure that the Commission be fully functioning and effective as soon as possible. Noting with concern that implementation of the CPA was behind schedule, it called on all the political forces in Sudan to facilitate a speedy transition to peace throughout the country, within the framework of the CPA. The first meeting of the AEC took place on 20 November; three EU Member States are members of the AEC, with the EU participating as observer.

The EU-Sudan Ministerial Troika meeting on 8 October in Khartoum offered another opportunity to take stock of the implementation of the CPA and meet with representatives of the newly established GNU.

During the discussion, the EU side stressed the need to rapidly set up the institutions set out in the CPA as well as the need for a timely implementation of the security aspects of the CPA, and the need for a transparent system to monitor oil revenues. The importance of setting up the government and institutions in Southern Sudan was also highlighted, together with the need for the SPLM/A to engage fully at national level. The situation in Eastern Sudan and the activities of the LRA in Northern Uganda were also raised at the troika meeting, as well as the second main topic of the meeting, the Darfur conflict.

The Darfur conflict remained among the chief priorities on the EU's external agenda. The Union continued its active engagement to resolve the conflict and in support of the AU's efforts to stabilise the security situation in Darfur and achieve a negotiated settlement to the conflict. On various occasions, the EU expressed its grave concern at the continuing violence in Darfur and condemned violations of the cease-fire by all the parties. The EU sent - through a number of Council conclusions, Presidency declarations and on the occasion of the EU-Sudan Ministerial Troika meeting and several contacts at other levels - clear messages to all the parties in the conflict on the need to respect their commitments (regarding the cease-fire, human rights and international humanitarian law, the need to guarantee the security of AMIS, disarmament of the Janjaweed militias, etc.). Similarly, recalling that only a political solution can bring peace to Darfur, the EU insisted on the parties' responsibility for finding a peaceful solution to the conflict and urged them to engage constructively in the Abuja talks aiming at an early agreement. The EU also stated that any attempt to undermine the Abuja peace process was unacceptable, and recalled that under Security Council Resolution 1591, sanctions can be imposed against those obstructing the peace process.

The EU also condemned the human rights violations in Darfur and demanded that those responsible should be held accountable. It strongly supported the creation of the International Commission of Inquiry on the violation of human rights and international humanitarian law in Darfur, and on 7 February resolutely condemned the crimes identified in the report, stressing the importance of putting an immediate end to impunity in Darfur. It also welcomed the Commission's recommendations; one of them being that those responsible should answer for their acts before the International Criminal Court (ICC).

Consequently, the Council welcomed the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 1591 that establishes sanctions against, *inter alia*, persons who commit violations of international or human rights law or other atrocities and extends the arms embargo against Darfur. The measures set out in Resolution 1591 were transposed into EU and EC law.¹⁰⁴ The EU equally welcomed Security Council Resolution 1593, which referred the situation in Darfur to the ICC, and urged all parties to cooperate fully with the ICC.

Continuing the substantial assistance the EU has been providing to the AU's efforts in Darfur since 2004, support for the AU mission in Darfur (AMIS) increased. Following the AU's decision in April 2005 to expand AMIS to 7,731 military and civilian police personnel, on 26 May the SG/HR presented to the International Pledging Conference in Addis Ababa a package of additional EU measures to support AMIS, comprising support for both its military and civilian-police components. This support is provided in close co-ordination and collaboration with other institutional and bilateral donors. As a framework for the EU's support to AMIS, on 18 July 2005 the Council adopted a Joint Action¹⁰⁵. On 7 November, the supporting action was extended for a further six-month period.¹⁰⁶ Additionally, with a third contribution to AMIS from the African Peace Facility of EUR 70 million, the EU is contributing significantly to the funding of this new phase of the mission. To this should be added bilateral contributions in cash and kind (vehicles, aircraft, food rations, etc.).

¹⁰⁴ Council Common Position 2005/411/CFSP of 30 May 2005 concerning restrictive measures against Sudan and repealing Common Position 2004/31/CFSP (OJ L 139 02.06.2005, p.25); Council Regulation (EC) No 838/2005 of 30 May 2005 amending Regulation (EC) No 131/2004 concerning certain restrictive measures in respect of Sudan (OJ L 139 02.06.2005, p.3); Council Regulation (EC) No 1184/2005 of 18 July 2005 imposing certain specific restrictive measures directed against certain persons impeding the peace process and breaking international law in the conflict in the Darfur region in Sudan (OJ L 193 23.07.2005, p.9).

¹⁰⁵ Council Joint Action 2005/557/CFSP of 18 July 2005 on the European Union civilian-military supporting action to the African Union mission in the Darfur region of Sudan (OJ L 188, 20.07.2005, p.46-51).

¹⁰⁶ Council Decision 2005/806/CFSP of 21 November 2005 (OJ L 303, 22.11.2005, p.60).

Tanzania

On 20 December 2005 the EU welcomed the third multi-party Presidential, Parliamentary and local elections which took place in Tanzania on 14 December 2005. It congratulated Jakaya Kikwete on his election as President of Tanzania and stated that it looked forward to a structured political dialogue with him and his CCM government on major issues of good governance, political pluralism, poverty alleviation and economic growth. The EU also expressed its concern over the political polarisation on Zanzibar and expressed its preparedness to work with all parties to promote reconciliation.

Togo

Violence first erupted in February when the death of President Gnassingbé Eyadema brought his 38-year rule to a sudden end and prompted his son Faure Gnassingbé to seize power. The EU, ECOWAS, AU and the international community condemned this unconstitutional seizure of power. After mediation and a number of sanctions imposed upon Togo, the country held elections and saw the former president's son elected, causing violence in the country.

The EU followed the situation in Togo closely before and after the April 2005 elections and kept Togo on the agenda in its ECOWAS and AU ministerial troika meetings in 2005.

EU cooperation with Togo has been suspended since 1993. In 2004 the EU decided to open Article 96 consultations in which Togo offered 22 undertakings including, amongst others, a return to democracy through resumption of dialogue with the traditional opposition and civil society, revision of the electoral arrangements, strengthening of human rights and fundamental freedoms. The conclusions of these consultations also provided that the EU would continue the dialogue with the Togolese authorities with a view to ensuring that democracy and the rule of law are enhanced in the country. Following a Council decision in November 2004 the consultations on Article 96 were concluded with Togo and partial resumption of cooperation followed.

The first EU monitoring mission composed of the Presidency and the Commission of the EU visited the country in July 2005. The mission stressed the importance of political dialogue among the parties urging thorough preparation of the legislative elections, including a proper review of the electoral lists.

Although the mission acknowledged some progress in certain human rights matters (legal guarantees in preventive detention cases, the approval of a law decriminalising press offences), it underlined the importance of bringing those responsible for human rights violations to justice and creating a climate of trust so that the refugees could go back to the country.

After the publication of the report from the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation in Togo, published in September 2005, the EU publicly condemned all acts of violence in the country whatever their origin and renewed its call to the Togolese authorities for a genuine dialogue which would involve all political actors in the country and through clarity and transparency would serve to establish an electoral framework acceptable to all. The EU has expressed its readiness to support action by the government and the President to implement the 22 undertakings, in compliance with the Council Decision of 15 November 2004.

Uganda

The conflict in Northern Uganda and internal political developments were the main focus of EU attention. The dramatic humanitarian situation in Northern Uganda following almost 20 years of armed conflict between government forces and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) is of serious concern to the EU. The representatives of the EU Member States regularly conveyed these concerns to the Ugandan Government in the framework of the Article 8 political dialogue. They were also among the points raised by the SG/HR in his meeting with Uganda's President Yoweri Museveni in Brussels on 20 April 2005.

In its conclusions of 7 November 2005, the Council stated its continuing support for a peaceful resolution of the conflict and called on Uganda's government to ensure the protection of all of its citizens and stated the EU's readiness to assist efforts to re-settle internally displaced people in their home areas and to support efforts towards reconciliation. Noting the arrest warrants issued by the International Criminal Court (ICC) against five LRA commanders, the Council called on all involved to work to facilitate the arrest of the individuals subject to the warrant. It also urged the government to take exceptional measures to encourage all non-indicted members of the LRA to seek amnesty and reintegration into their communities. The Council welcomed the declared willingness of the new Sudanese Government of National Unity to actively assist in combating the LRA on Sudanese territory. The EU troika in Kampala made a démarche to President Museveni on 11 October 2005 concerning the movement of a LRA contingent into the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Political developments, in particular the constitutional referendum and the process leading up to the 2006 elections, were also closely monitored. Following the referendum on 28 July 2005, in which a majority voted in favour of a constitutional reform re-introducing a multi-party political system, an EU declaration on 5 August 2005 welcomed the decision of the Ugandan people which it saw as a "significant step forward for democratic accountability". The EU also expressed its expectation that the government would honour its commitment to separate the Movement from the State and that the necessary legislation for a multi-party system would be adopted, stressing the importance of the 2006 elections being seen by all parties to be free and fair. After the arrest of the leading opposition presidential candidate, Kizza Besigye, and 22 other members of the opposition on 14 November 2005, the EU reacted quickly by expressing its deep concern at the arrest and calling for due legal process. Underlining that all parties should be able to compete in a fair and transparent manner, it also called for the full participation of all political groups in the democratic process and encouraged dialogue to strengthen democratic institutions. On 30 December 2005, the EU Heads of Mission in Kampala agreed to recommend the deployment of an EU Electoral Observation Mission for the elections in February 2006.

Zimbabwe

In light of the continued deterioration in the situation in Zimbabwe, on 21 February 2006 the EU extended the period of application of restrictive measures against Zimbabwe for another period of 12 months. The EU has continued to undertake démarches to the neighbouring States concerning the situation and the SADC position concerning the parliamentary elections, urging them to ensure that the SADC Principles and guidelines governing democratic elections are complied with in Zimbabwe. On 5 April 2006 the EU noted the Parliamentary elections in Zimbabwe on 31 March 2006, while also noting that it had not been invited as observer. The EU, while recognising the improvement in the conduct of the elections, expressed concern over the number of serious shortcomings in the electoral system and expressed reservations about the voting environment. This assessment did not therefore allow the EU to conclude that the elections were free and fair. The EU stated that the restoration of democracy and the rule of law, respect for human rights and the adoption of measures to deal with the urgent humanitarian needs of the population continued to be fundamental requirements in Zimbabwe. On 13 June 2006, the EU updated its list of Zimbabweans covered by the restrictive measures to take account of newly elected politicians following the elections.

The operation Murambatsvina was condemned by the EU on 7 June. The EU urged the Zimbabwean government to respect human rights and the rule of law and to implement policies aimed at easing the situation of the populations that are most in need. On 26 July the EU welcomed the report by the UN Secretary General's Special Envoy Anna Tibaijuka on the government of Zimbabwe's operation Murambatsvina, noting her findings that the operation was indiscriminate and unjustified and illegal under domestic and international legislation. Subsequently the EU undertook démarches in the other SADC capitals to express concern over the humanitarian situation in the country. The GAERC on 18 July 2005 adopted conclusions voicing the same concerns and additional persons responsible for the operation were added to the travel ban list on 29 July 2005. On 7 November 2005 the EU noted the statement issued by the UNSG on Zimbabwe. The EU shared the concern expressed by the UN over the grave humanitarian situation in the country caused by operation Murambatsvina. Like the UN, it expressed its dismay that the government of Zimbabwe had not accepted the urgent humanitarian needs set out in the report by the UNSG's Special Envoy and that the country had declined aid for those left homeless and destitute. Following the visit to Zimbabwe by UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Jan Egeland, on 19 December 2005 the EU welcomed the agreement signed by the UN agencies and the Zimbabwean government for food assistance and HIV/AIDS programmes and noted the exchange between the government of Zimbabwe and the UN over the need for assistance with shelter.

9. LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

Summary of main aspects

Various countries in Latin America were characterised in 2005 by social unrest, the rise of new forces and political instability. In cooperation with regional partners, the EU has taken initiatives to ensure, where appropriate, fair elections and respect for the outcome, as well as to convince all political forces to act in conformity with democratic principles. The EU has also cooperated with LAC partners on matters of common interest and in the context of multilateral discussions. Partners from both sides worked closely and efficiently together in addressing international or regional crises.

In the follow-up to the III EU-LAC Summit (28-29 May 2005 at Guadalajara/Mexico), both sides have established a list of concrete implementations of agreed bi-regional commitments. A report on this list will be presented to the forthcoming IV Summit in Vienna on 12 May 2006.

Rio Group

Ministerial Meeting

The twelfth Ministerial meeting of the Rio Group and the European Union was held in Luxembourg on 27 May 2005¹⁰⁷. Discussions focussed in particular on the future of bi-regional relations, regional integration and cooperation, international cooperation with Haiti, the creation of jobs to combat poverty, and strengthening democratic governance and preparations for the High-level plenary meeting of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations in September 2005. Ministers underlined their strong support for multilateralism as the most effective way to respond to the threats and challenges facing the international community and they stressed the central role of the United Nations in this domain.

Political Dialogue

The EU and Rio Group held a Ministerial troika meeting in the margin of UNGA in New York on 17 September 2005. They reviewed the implementation of the commitments made in Luxembourg, exchanged views on UN Summit and Haiti. They stressed the need to reinforce political dialogue structures.

Mercosur

Ministerial meeting

Mercosur and the European Union met at ministerial level in Luxembourg on 26 May 2005¹⁰⁸. Ministers reiterated their commitment to a successful conclusion of the Bi-regional Negotiations with a view to establishing an Interregional Association Agreement to cover political, economic, trade and cooperation matters as recalled at the Guadalajara Summit in 2004.

¹⁰⁷ Joint Declaration 9486/05 PRESSE 130

¹⁰⁸ Joint Declaration 9426/05 PRESSE 127

Ministers reaffirmed their resolve to cooperate in framework of the UN system, to combat threats to peace and security, including international terrorism, reiterated the importance of strengthening the multilateral trading system enshrined in the WTO, and reaffirmed their commitment to a timely and successful conclusion of the Doha Development Round.

Political Dialogue

A political dialogue meeting between EU Troika and Mercosur took place on 18 November 2005 in Montevideo, Uruguay. It confirmed a broad consensus on many items. Main areas covered at the meeting were UN reform, Human rights, Migration policies, the EU-LAC Summit, the IVth Summit of the Americas, the South American Community of Nations, the OAS, Haiti, and developments in Latin America and in Europe.

Central America

The XXith San José Dialogue Ministerial meeting between the EU and Central America took place in Luxembourg on 26 May 2005¹⁰⁹. Ministers reaffirmed that the conclusion of an Association Agreement between the European Union and Central America, including a Free Trade Area, remained their common strategic objective. In this context they welcomed the launching of the joint assessment exercise on regional economic integration.

During 2005 the EU followed developments in Central America very closely. In October the Council expressed its deep concern and support for the victims of Tropical Storm Stan in Central America. It reacted on various occasions to express its concerns about political instability or to commend positive trends in Central American countries.

Nicaragua

On 8 July 2005 the EU expressed its concern at the political and institutional crisis that Nicaragua was undergoing¹¹⁰. It called for respect for the balance and independence of the powers of the State. The Union supported the efforts of the Secretary General of the OAS in fostering stability in Nicaragua. It urged all political actors to return to national dialogue in order to reach a solution to the crisis.

¹⁰⁹ Joint Declaration 9406/05(PRESSE126)

¹¹⁰ 10633/05 PRESSE 172

Guatemala

On 5 October 2005 the SG/HR Javier Solana met the Guatemalan delegation led by the Vice-President, Eduardo Stein. They reviewed EU-Guatemala relations, the implementation of the Peace Accords, and the Human Rights situation. Vice-President Stein also addressed the Latin American Working Party. EU concerns over human rights, specific issues such as adoption and ratification of the ICC and the death penalty were also conveyed to the Guatemalan authorities during the visit by the Personal Representative of the SG/HR for Human Rights Michael Matthiessen to Guatemala on 1 September 2005.¹¹¹

Honduras

The European Union welcomed the holding of free and peaceful elections in Honduras on 27 November 2005 and conveyed its congratulations to the President-elect Jose Manuel Zelaya Rosales¹¹². The Union acknowledged further consolidation of democracy in recent years, economic progress and advances towards fiscal stability achieved under President Maduro. It underlined its support for the democratic, economic and social development of Honduras.

Caribbean

In the framework of the EU-Rio Group Ministerial meeting (Luxembourg, May 2005) the EU Ministers recognised the importance of the negotiations on the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between the countries of the Caribbean and the European Union and welcomed the launch of those negotiations in the framework of the Cotonou Agreement. They awaited their successful conclusion and stressed that the EPA must be an effective instrument for sustainable development.

Haiti

The EU has followed developments in Haiti very closely and has stated its views on the critical situation in the country on various occasions and reiterated its support for the Interim government and Minustah (UN Stabilization Mission) in their efforts to restore security. The EU underlined the need to ensure comprehensive long-term aid to assist Haitian authorities in the political, economic, social reconstruction of the country.

¹¹¹ Taking into consideration the European Parliament resolution on Guatemala P6_TA(2005)0304.

¹¹² 15759/05 PRESSE 361

In October 2005 the Council decided to resume full cooperation with Haiti and to repeal the restrictive measures under Article 96 of the Cotonou Agreement in force since 2001¹¹³. The EU also supported the organisation of elections; an EU electoral observation mission was sent. Haiti was regularly discussed in political dialogue meetings with main partners (the US, Canada, Rio Group).

Andean Countries

Continued social inequality, unrest, political instability and conflicts between political groups and institutions in a number of Andean countries were addressed by the EU with a view to allowing Presidential and legislative elections in 2006 to take place within a socially peaceful climate.

Peru

The SG/HR Javier Solana held talks with Peruvian President Alejandro Toledo on EU-Peru-LA relations, regional integration in Latin America and worries about democratic governance in some countries. Peru held the Presidency of the Andean countries in 2005.

Bolivia

During 2005, the EU held contacts with all political forces and made public statements¹¹⁴, calling upon the institutional and political players and on Bolivian society as a whole to pursue open and constructive dialogue to agree on peaceful solutions respecting the constitutional order.

The SG/HR Javier Solana had an extensive exchange of views with President-elect Evo Morales.

In the context of the elections on 18 December 2005¹¹⁵, the EU called upon all political players, civil society and ordinary Bolivians to support the electoral process and to ensure that it led to a peaceful and democratic transition of power in January, and to help the government elected meet the challenge of building a fair, just and prosperous society. All citizens should play an active and positive role in this endeavour. The European Union confirmed its determination to continue to support Bolivia in its efforts to strengthen democratic institutions and to alleviate poverty, inequality and social exclusion. The EU is the biggest donor to Bolivia with an average of EUR 250 million per year, which accounts for 57% of Bolivia's non-reimbursable aid.

¹¹³ Council Decision of 17 October 2005, OJ L 285/45

¹¹⁴ 9887/05

¹¹⁵ ACN/SEC/0255/05

Colombia

In the Council conclusions adopted on 3 October 2005¹¹⁶, the EU continued to express its total solidarity with the Colombian people, and its full support for the Colombian Government in its search for a negotiated solution to the internal armed conflict. The Council also recalled the Cartagena Declaration of 3 February 2005, the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) Chair Statement on Colombia of April 2005 and CHR Resolution 2005/81 on impunity.

The Council reiterated its call to all parties to the conflict to respect human rights and international humanitarian law, and repeated its call to all illegal groups to cease all hostilities and to engage in a negotiated peace process and to act accordingly.

The Council underlined the necessity for a humanitarian agreement on the release of hostages and the importance of ensuring the safety of those working for the promotion and protection of human rights and of protecting the rights of minorities and indigenous peoples.

The Council noted concerns that the Justice and Peace Law, adopted on 21 June 2005, might not take sufficient account of the principles of truth, justice and reparation in accordance with internationally agreed standards. The Council shared many of these concerns, including : effective dismantling of all paramilitary structures; the blurring of distinctions between "political" and other crimes; the short time allowed for the investigation of confessions and for the investigation of illegally acquired title assets; the restricted opportunities allowed for victims to claim reparation; the limited maximum sentences for the most serious crimes; and the heavy resource pressures on the Colombian legal system in coping with the demands of the new law.

Nevertheless the Council believed that if the Law was effectively and transparently implemented it would make a positive contribution to the search for peace in Colombia. The Council confirmed its willingness to work closely with the government, institutions and civil society of Colombia, as well as with the UNHCHR, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, the G-24, and others. The Council welcomed the continued engagement of the Organization of American States (OAS) in accompanying the demobilisation of the paramilitary groups.

¹¹⁶ 12615/05 + COR1

The EU had various contacts with Colombian authorities, including meetings between the SG/HR Javier Solana and Foreign Minister Carolina Barco, and between the EU-Troika and Vice-President Francisco Santos.

The EC gave additional support to the consolidation of the peace process, to victims (EUR 65,7 million), as well as to transparent and effective implementation of the Justice and Peace Law, through the EC's Rapid Reaction Mechanism (EUR 1,5 million).

Mexico

Following initial exchanges of views at the 4th EU-Mexico Joint Council (Luxembourg 26 May 2005)¹¹⁷ and the 5th Joint Committee (Brussels, 27 October 2005)¹¹⁸, both parties agreed to strengthen their Political Dialogue, notably by using existing channels and expertise more effectively.

In particular, the EU and Mexico agreed to take forward expert visits at all levels and coordination on points of interest by EU HOMs at the beginning of each EU Presidency and in multilateral fora.

Mexico and the EU remained in close contact on major international matters. The EU welcomed the abolition of the death penalty in Mexico. Both sides will strengthen their cooperation to promote the universal abolition of the death penalty.

The EU also welcomed Mexico's ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, thus becoming its 100th full member. Like 11 other Latin American countries, Mexico refused to sign a "Bilateral Immunity Agreement (Article 98)" with the US.

Chile

At the 2nd EU-Chile Association Council (Luxembourg, 26 May 2005), both sides¹¹⁹ agreed that the full implementation of the political dialogue provisions of the Association Agreement will contribute to joint positions and initiatives in international matters of mutual interest. The EU welcomed the participation of Chile in Operation ALTHEA, as a further sign of its strong commitment to global peace and stability, as well as in Haiti.

¹¹⁷ 9457/05

¹¹⁸ CFSP/SEC/2149/05

¹¹⁹ UE-CL 3902/05

The European Union extended its warm congratulations to President-elect Dr. Michelle Bachelet Jeria, and recognised the economic and social progress achieved under the Government of President Ricardo Lagos Escobar as well as its dedication to international cooperation and the advancement of democratic values¹²⁰.

Cuba

In accordance with the Common Position¹²¹ and the conclusions adopted on 31 January 2005¹²², the Council pursued efforts to encourage a process of peaceful transition to pluralist democracy and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, in contacts with Cuban authorities. With the same objective, the EU reinvigorated its relationship with the opposition and independent sectors, also focusing on medium-term transition issues.

Accordingly, meetings are held between the EU embassies' Human Rights Group and dissidents, as well as one or two meetings with each EU Presidency. The existence of these meetings is made public.

Embassies also request access to prisons, improve access for dissidents to sources of information, reinforce relations with local independent media and libraries, and invite the peaceful opposition to certain cultural and social events. Members of the peaceful opposition will continue to be invited to Europe, and the EU insists that Cuban authorities will not prohibit this, as occurred in the past.

In all high-level contacts with Cuban authorities, in a frank dialogue the EU insisted on reforms and urged Cuba to release all political prisoners.

The Council categorically condemned Cuba's unacceptable attitude towards foreign parliamentarians and journalists who were either expelled from or denied entry into Cuba.

This policy was reconfirmed by new Council conclusions adopted on 13 June 2005¹²³.

At the UN Commission on Human Rights the EU unanimously co-sponsored and approved the resolution on Cuba.

The Council has also examined projects of support to the civil society in Cuba, as well as the possibility of mobilising cooperation programmes in line with the objectives of the Common Position.

¹²⁰ 5434/06

¹²¹ O.J. L322 of 12/12/96, p. 1

¹²² 5444/1/05 REV1

¹²³ 10168/05

10. TRANSATLANTIC RELATIONS

The annual EU-US Summit was held in Washington on 20 June 2005. Discussions centred on economic and trade questions, climate change, visas and development policy, as well as on the MEPP, Egypt, Iran, Syria, the Balkans, Russia, the ENP and EU enlargement. Eight declarations were adopted¹²⁴, namely on Working Together to Promote Peace, Prosperity and Progress in the Middle East, on Working Together to Promote Peace, Stability, Prosperity, and Good Governance in Africa, on the 60th Anniversary of the Signing of the San Francisco Charter, on Working Together to Promote Democracy and Support Freedom, the Rule of Law and Human Rights Worldwide, on Enhancing Cooperation in the Field of Non-Proliferation and the Fight Against Terrorism, on Working Together to Fight against Global Piracy and Counterfeiting, as well as a Joint Programme of Work on the Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction and an Initiative to Enhance Transatlantic Economic Integration and Growth.

These declarations once again underlined the extent of progress in the fields in question, in particular promotion of democracy, justice and home affairs and security and the economic initiative. The ever-increasing range of topics on which the EU works together with the US bears testimony to the dynamism of the transatlantic partnership.

A live EU-Canada Summit and a Video conference Summit were held with Canada in 2005. Comprehensive declarations, dealing both with common approaches to foreign policy and with other issues, were adopted. Those provide a useful basis for further cooperation. EU and Canada cooperated closely on UN Reform. Canada participates in several ESDP operations; cooperation in Haiti, Afghanistan and Sudan is especially important, these being Canadian foreign policy priorities. The EU and Canada signed the Europol-Canada Agreement, a PNR Agreement and a Framework Agreement for the Participation of Canada in EU crisis management operations¹²⁵.

¹²⁴ 10359/05

¹²⁵ OJ L 315, 01.12.2005, p; 20.

Chapter IV

MULTILATERAL FORA

1. UNITED NATIONS

The EU continued to play an active role in the work of the UN General Assembly and other UN bodies, agencies and conferences. A constant in EU action has been its intention to contribute to the UN's comprehensive reform programme, which is designed to improve the efficiency of its bodies, policies and procedures.

The European Council on 16-17 June 2005 stressed that the United Nations Summit would provide an opportunity to reaffirm the EU's strong support for effective multilateralism and for the process of reform of the United Nations. Furthermore, the European Council reaffirmed the EU's very substantial commitments in the development area, in particular a new collective European Union target of an ODA/GNI ratio of 0.56% by 2010. The EU continued to play a role as the driving force in the negotiations leading up to the Summit on 14-16 September 2005, working to ensure an ambitious and balanced outcome. In its conclusions of 7 November 2005, the General Affairs and External Relations Council welcomed the agreement reached at the Summit on a balanced and extensive package of UN reforms and underlined that the EU will actively engage in outreach activities to ensure implementation of reforms agreed, including on the Peacebuilding Commission, the Human Rights Council and management reform. The EU warmly welcomed the adoption of the resolutions establishing the Peacebuilding Commission on 20 December 2005 as a major step forward in the implementation of the Summit outcome and reaffirmed that the EU intends to play an active role in this new body.

On 22 July 2005 the Council approved a paper on EU priorities for the 60th session of the United Nations General Assembly, in which it reaffirmed its commitment to the United Nations, to upholding and developing international law, and to effective multilateralism as a central element of its external action.

It was also emphasised that the EU will engage with key partners on issues such as cooperation in crisis management, refugees/displaced persons, negotiation of the next UN budget and the Capital Master Plan.

In the course of 2005 there was major progress in the implementation of the Joint Declaration on UN-EU Cooperation in Crisis Management of 24 September 2003. The Steering Committee met in June and November and regular expert-level talks were held throughout the year.

2. COOPERATION WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS UNDER THE ESDP

EU-UN cooperation

Further steps were taken to implement the Joint Declaration on cooperation in crisis management of September 2003. The UN World Summit in September 2005 endorsed the efforts of the European Union and other regional entities to develop capacities such as for rapid deployment, standby and bridging arrangements. There were a number of meetings between the two Secretariats, in line with the consultation mechanism now in place, focusing on a range of issues relating to the planning and conduct of peace-keeping operations, the development of civilian and military capabilities and the situation in Africa. Discussions are ongoing between the EU and the UN in relation to how EU battle groups might be used in support of the UN.

An EU military liaison officer was established in the New York Liaison Office in November 2005 to enhance operational coordination and cooperation with the UN. Regular meetings between UN and EU representatives continued to take place, inter alia in the framework of the EU-UN Steering Committee. An additional important step forward in facilitating increased EU-UN cooperation on crisis management was the conclusion of a Security Agreement in 2005, allowing for the exchange of classified information.

The EU-UN Exercise Study (EST 05) took place on 14 and 15 April 2005 and provided an excellent opportunity to take stock of progress achieved. Its focus was on practical aspects of cooperation in the context of a crisis situation requiring rapid response and covered both military as well as civilian operations.

African Union (AU)

Cooperation also intensified with the African Union (AU) and the African sub-regional organisations, through EU support both for the AU's AMIS II mission and for longer-term capacity building measures. In the framework of the EU/Africa dialogue, the interaction with the African Union is becoming more and more structured and intensive. Issues of relevance for peace and security regularly figure high on the agenda of the bi-annual senior officials and ministerial troika meetings. On 17 and 19 May 2005 respectively, the PSC had an exchange of views with the Chairman of the African Union Commission, Alpha Oumar Konaré, and with the AU Commissioner for Peace and Security, Saïd Djinnit, on strengthening relations between the EU and the AU, in particular in the field of peace and security. Mr Konaré and Mr Djinnit subsequently visited the SG/HR Solana on 11 October 2005. They were accompanied by Mr Mazimphaka (Vice President of the AU Commission) and Ms Joiner (Commissioner for Political Affairs).

EU-NATO

Against the background of developing the EU-NATO strategic partnership in crisis management, relations with NATO continued to be of particular relevance in the context of ESDP. EU-NATO cooperation in military crisis management is governed by the comprehensive framework agreed in 2003. This framework comprises the "Berlin plus" arrangements that provide for EU access to NATO collective assets and capabilities. The conduct of Operation ALTHEA under the "Berlin plus" arrangements as well as cooperation with NATO in its remaining tasks in Bosnia and Herzegovina went smoothly and in a satisfactory manner. The EU and NATO have cooperated including through a joint cell in Addis Ababa to ensure effective support for AMIS in Darfur.

In the second half of 2005, following up the document of December 2003 on "European defence: NATO/EU consultation, planning and operations", the EU and NATO agreed upon the terms of reference for a permanent EU cell at SHAPE and a permanent NATO liaison team at the EU Military Staff. The arrangements agreed reflect the resolve to ensure close cooperation and transparency between the EU and NATO while fully respecting each side's decision-making autonomy.

EU-NATO contacts continued in the field of military capability development. Issues of coherence between EU battle groups and NATO response forces and the adaptation of NATO defence planning software tools for use by the EU were among the matters addressed in 2005. The EU-NATO Capabilities Group met regularly to exchange views and information.

As in previous years, EU-NATO contacts continue, at staff level, on exercises.

3. OSCE

Following the June 2004 Council Conclusions and the December 2004 "Assessment Report on the role of the EU vis-à-vis the OSCE", close cooperation at institutional and operational level between the EU and the OSCE has continued. A further assessment report is planned. An ever-increasing number of non-EU OSCE participating States aligned with the EU Statements in the OSCE Permanent Council, thus enhancing the weight of EU policy in the OSCE context. In the ongoing wide-ranging discussion in the OSCE on strengthening the organisation, the EU line in defence of the fundamental values that underpin the OSCE was successful, in particular in maintaining the mandate and the autonomy of ODIHR and the field missions. Good practical cooperation with the OSCE has been maintained through ongoing contacts between the two Secretariats, particularly regarding the activities of EU and OSCE missions on the ground. A joint declaration on Enhanced Cooperation between the EU and the OSCE was endorsed by PSC in May and handed over to the Belgian OSCE Chairmanship with a request to reach a consensus within the OSCE.

4. INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT (ICC)

The legal basis for the EU's action in support of the ICC is the Council's Common Position on the ICC of 16 June 2003 and the associated Action Plan of January 2004. This Action Plan focuses on the initial period of effective functioning of the ICC. The Court became fully operational in 2003 with the establishment of all its organs and bodies in The Hague. The Action Plan is divided into three sections: (i) coordination of EU activities; (ii) universality and integrity of the Rome Statute; (iii) independence and effective functioning of the ICC. In accordance with the action plan, the EU continued working throughout 2005 to promote the Rome Statute and preserve its integrity. It made démarches to third-country governments, in particular to promote ratification of or accession to the Rome Statute. The EU Member States coordinated their views throughout the ASP session from 28 November to 3 December 2005. In its closing statement on behalf of the EU, the Presidency underlined that it had been a significant year for the Court and that it was a significant achievement to secure 100 ratifications of the Rome Statute in such a short period since its establishment.

Following contacts with the ICC Deputy Prosecutor in May 2004, and with a view to concluding an EU/ICC cooperation and assistance agreement based on Article 24 TEU, the EU pursued contacts with the Court. On 24 April 2005, the Council authorised the Presidency, assisted by the SG/HR, and the European Commission as appropriate, to formally start the negotiation of such an Agreement with the ICC. During the second half of 2005, the EU had several rounds of negotiations with the Court.

Chapter V

PROSPECTS FOR FUTURE ACTION IN 2006

1. COUNTER-TERRORISM STRATEGY

Negotiations on the politically very important Comprehensive Convention against International Terrorism will reach a crucial phase when the ad hoc committee on the Convention meets in New York between 27 February and 3 March. If no agreement can be reached, the EU will continue negotiations, keeping the item on the agenda of the current General Assembly. The EU will also focus on the attainment of an international consensus on a UN Counter-Terrorism Strategy. The EU fully supports the proposals of the UN Secretary General for such a strategy - outlined in his speech on in Madrid 10 March 2005.

The EU will continue to reinforce its cooperation with third countries, including through the provision of technical assistance with a view to strengthening their counter-terrorism capacity.

In the field of radicalisation and recruitment, the current Presidency is committed to implementation of the Strategy and the Action Plan. In the field of CFSP, it has identified the following priorities:

- Coordination of efforts to integrate radicalisation and recruitment in wider assistance programmes
- Initiate work to address the terrorist propaganda disseminated by satellite channels
- Initiate reflection on ways to engage with non-violent Islamist organisations
- Promotion of priorities contained in the Radicalisation and Recruitment Strategy in meetings with partner countries (e.g. fostering respect for human rights and the rule of law in the fight against terrorism; promoting good governance; deepening the international consensus on terrorism; promoting universal adherence to, and full implementation of, international counter-terrorism instruments; highlighting incidents of hate speech; promoting educational opportunities for all)
- The organisation of meetings to promote cross-cultural dialogue

- Measures to promote and explain European policies more persuasively in the media (and in this context: development of a common lexicon with agreed definitions to enable non-emotive discussion which avoids linking terrorism to Islam)
- Delivering technical assistance to priority countries.

Implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan on radicalisation and recruitment are likely to remain a priority for future Presidencies.

2. NON-PROLIFERATION

In December 2005, the Council endorsed a revised list of priorities for a coherent implementation of the EU WMD Strategy¹²⁶. This will serve as guidance for EU activities in 2006 also.

Support for multilateralism and universal accession to international treaties and agreements.

The EU will continue to promote the role of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). It will also work to foster universalisation and strengthen the main treaties and conventions, while urging all UN Member States to implement Security Council Resolution 1540.

Over and above its political and diplomatic moves, the EU could provide further support for the workshops and conferences organised by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), by the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and workshops designed to encourage accession to the Convention on the Prohibition of Biological and Toxin Weapons (BTWC) and The Hague International Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation (HCOG) but also workshops and conference organised by the UN Office or UNIDIR in Geneva as part of the Disarmament Conference.

The Council is examining a draft Joint Action in support of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBTO) aimed at strengthening the CTBT verification system.

¹²⁶ 5279/06.

Implementation of effective export controls

On the basis of progress made in 2005, the EU will continue to work on the recommendations of the Peer Review of Member States' export controls and the 13 December 2004 Council Statement.

The EU will continue to act in a concerted and determined manner to ensure the accession of all its new Member States to export control regimes soon.

The EU will maintain its policy to promote tougher export control regimes and compliance with their guidelines, even by States who have not signed up to them. The importance of export controls has been especially highlighted in the context of the new neighbourhood policy. The EU could provide technical assistance to third countries in that area. The priority regions for the EU are the Balkans and its partners in the European neighbourhood policy in Eastern Europe, the Middle East, North Africa and Ukraine, but also China.

The implementation of the Pilot Projects should provide the financial resources for the first assistance projects.

Strengthening the control of WMD-related equipment and materials in transit and/or in transshipment

Controlling the transit of WMD-related equipment and materials remains a major challenge for the implementation of an effective non-proliferation policy. The issue of how best to carry out such controls without unduly impeding trade is being considered by the Commission services, taking into account the results of the impact assessment study carried out further to the Peer Review (cf. Chapter II). Should it be considered necessary, the Commission will propose an amendment to the Dual Use Regulation in order to allow for controls on items in transit.

Criminal sanctions for the proliferation of sensitive goods and technologies

In the light of the European Council's declaration of 18 June 2004, Council bodies will in 2006 continue to review the appropriate political and legal instruments, including possible actions within the framework of Justice and Home Affairs that would further the adoption of concrete measures. Existing sanctions under Member States' current legislation or regulations will be evaluated and, if necessary, recommendations will be made to bring them into line.

Strengthening physical protection in the nuclear field

- Following the adoption of the Council Directive on the control of high-activity sealed radioactive sources, Member States will continue to ensure that it is implemented rapidly. The EU will further encourage third countries to adopt equivalent provisions.
- Démarches to third countries in order to promote early ratification of the amended Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) will continue to be carried out.
- The German government should carry out the implementation of the Joint Action adopted by the Council on 22 November 2004, aimed at improving physical protection at the Bochvar Institute of the Russian Federal Agency for Atomic Energy in Moscow.

Tightening up nuclear security

The Joint Action in support of the IAEA should be renewed by the Council in 2006. Its scope is likely to be expanded in order:

- to comprehensively address all kinds of nuclear security weaknesses in third countries, and
- to cover additional countries/regions.

The EU would provide assistance in drafting legislation, building up adequate regulatory authorities and on-site improvements.

Tightening up the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention

The Common Position for the 2006 Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BTWC) Review Conference is ready for submission to the Council. The strengthening of the BTWC as well as continuous work towards identifying effective mechanisms to strengthen and verify compliance with the Convention are the cornerstones of the EU position. The EU will also seek to promote the universalisation and more effective implementation of the BTWC both through traditional diplomatic channels (démarches) and concrete assistance to third parties. To that end the Council will adopt a Council Joint Action on BTWC and is considering supporting other projects such as the physical protection of bio-laboratories in selected countries in 2006 (i.e. Ukraine).

Internally, the EU Member States are considering concerting their action in favour of greater transparency of BTWC implementation through early delivery of their Confidence-Building Measure reports and further supporting the UN Secretary General's mechanism for investigating cases of alleged use of BTW. To that end an EU Action Plan on BTWC should be adopted by the Council shortly.

Contributing to disarmament and dismantlement of WMD

The experience gained through the implementation of Council Joint Actions on disarmament in the Russian Federation is a good starting point for further EU action in this field. Additional activities could be envisaged in order to cover a wider geographical scope: other States of the former Soviet Union, such as Ukraine, but also States in North Africa and the Middle East. The Council is considering a draft Joint Action on chemical weapon destruction in Russia.

Facilitating the conversion of WMD expertise.

The EU should continue to study the potential for channelling the scientific expertise previously employed on WMD programmes, e.g. in Libya and Iraq, towards peaceful activities.

Developing an approach to other regions

(a) India and Pakistan

Against the background of the development of its relations with these two countries the EU could urge India and Pakistan to adopt transparency measures, in parallel, designed to improve their proliferation credibility vis-à-vis the international community. To that end, it might be useful to pursue action aimed at implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540, an enhanced dialogue with export control regimes and the adoption of other transparency measures.

Assistance on export controls could be envisaged.

(b) Developing the security aspects of the Barcelona process

The Union has consistently been in favour of a WMD-free-zone as part of a broader effort to promote security and stability in the Middle East and the Mediterranean (Barcelona process). Following the decision of principle taken by the Euromed Foreign Ministers in December 2004, an ad hoc workshop/meeting on non-proliferation and disarmament should be organised in the context of the security section of the Barcelona Process in 2006. The Personal Representative of the HR is continuing her contacts with Barcelona partners in order to achieve agreement on the terms of reference for that ad hoc meeting.

(c) ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

Practical cooperation with the ARF countries could be envisaged in the areas of non-proliferation and disarmament.

Mainstreaming non-proliferation policies into the EU's contractual relations with third countries

The EU is likely to pursue the following issues:

- Inclusion of a non-proliferation clause in ongoing negotiations on the interregional association agreement with Mercosur and the free-trade agreement with the Gulf Cooperation Council;

- Inclusion of a non-proliferation clause in partnership and cooperation agreements with the countries of South-East Asia, in particular Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, the Philippines, Malaysia and Brunei, as well as China;
- Inclusion of a non-proliferation clause in other stabilisation and association agreements in the Balkans, on the Albanian model;
- Conclusion of a "parallel" instrument under Article 24 of the EU Treaty, containing a non-proliferation clause with Pakistan and possibly also with Iraq.

Combating the destabilising accumulation and spread of small arms and light weapons

EU action in this field in 2006 will be framed by the EU Strategy to combat illicit accumulation and trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons and their ammunition, adopted in December 2005. Some of the actions proposed in Chapter III of this Strategy are as follows:

- The EU will promote implementation of the UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in SALW in all its Aspects (UNPoA), in particular the creation of an expert group on brokering and achieving consensus on agreed global guidelines governing transfers of SALW. The EU will present its combined efforts in this area during a side-event at the Review Conference of the UNPoA in June 2006, for which the EU will work to assure a positive and successful outcome.
- The EU will consider support to initiatives to combat the illicit trade in SALW and their ammunition in regions affected by proliferation and excessive accumulation of SALW, in particular Central and Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean. The Strategy also covers countries producing and exporting SALW. The Council will consider a Joint Action to support efforts in this field by Ukraine.
- Brokering and illicit transfer of SALW will be included in the agenda for all EU's structured political dialogues with countries which are major exporters of SALW, and especially with countries holding surplus stocks of SALW left over from the Cold War.

The first interim report on the implementation of the EU Strategy to combat illicit accumulation and trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons and their ammunition should be prepared in 2006.

3. ARMS EXPORTS

Areas for work in the near future, in particular in the context of the EU Code of Conduct on Arms Exports:

- Continuation of the process of harmonisation of national reports in order to promote more homogeneous statistical data for inclusion in the European Union annual report, so as to produce clearer, more transparent summary tables;
- Follow-up of the implementation of the Common Position on arms brokering¹²⁷, taking into account the different situations of national legislation and establishing an appropriate information-sharing mechanism;
- Development of best practices for the interpretation of the EU Code of Conduct criteria, moving on from criterion 8 to criterion 2 (human rights) and criterion 7 (end use controls);
- Continuation of the policy of promoting the principles and criteria of the Code of Conduct among third countries, specifically those that have aligned themselves with the Code of Conduct;
- Provision of practical and technical assistance, when requested, for the Accessing Countries and new neighbours in order to ensure the harmonisation of policies on arms export control and the full implementation of the Code of Conduct principles and criteria;
- Further development of dialogue with the European Parliament;

¹²⁷ Council Common Position 2003/468/CFSP of 23 June 2003 (OJ L 156 of 25.6.2003, p. 79).

- Continued close cooperation and consultation with interested third parties, including international NGOs and the defence industry;
- Continued work on promotion of the principle of an arms trade treaty (ATT) whilst recognising the link between illicit arms transfers and violations of human rights, particularly in States whose expenditure on arms exceeds that on development, health and education.

4. EUROPEAN SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY

4.1. General aspects

As a general feature in 2006 and against the background of the EU's rapidly expanding role in worldwide crisis management, the Council will address the issues and relevant proposals set out in the papers on Hampton Court follow-up that the SG/HR submitted to the European Council in December 2005. As far as ESDP is concerned, this relates specifically to the areas of defence capabilities, crisis management structures.

4.2. Military aspects

With regard to military capabilities, intensive work will be ongoing in 2006 in the framework of the Headline Goal 2010 process, as the Force Catalogue will have to be finalised on the basis of contributions to be made by Member States against the Requirements Catalogue 05 (RC 05).

In the area of rapid response, work in 2006 will concentrate on the battle groups. Special focus will be on the air and maritime aspects of Rapid Response.

Work on a post-2010 EU military vision ("Long Term Vision" - LTV) to guide capability development, initiated in 2005, will be conducted under the overall lead of the EDA and in cooperation with the EU Military Committee and the EU Institute for Security Studies (ISS) in Paris, using the European Security Strategy and Headline Goal 2010 as the basis.

LTV work will in particular address the global context (demography, economy, energy, environment etc.), the future military environment and research and technology (R&T) trends. All findings will be brought together at a "grand seminar" in June. EDA intends to submit a first draft of the LTV in September 2006.

Planning for the EU Crisis Management Exercise (CME 06), to be conducted in the autumn of 2006, is continuing. The exercise will focus on accelerated decision-making and planning process for EU rapid-response operations, covering both civilian and military aspects. The EU battle group concept will be among the elements to be tested.

Work on the contribution of ESDP to the fight against terrorism will be taken forward in the context of the Conceptual Framework and the first implementation report. It will mainly address interoperability between civilian and military assets of civil protection as well as broadening and enhancing the data base for military assets that can be used in support of consequence management, both in the case of terrorist attacks and of natural or man-made disasters.

As regards the contribution of military assets to disaster response and humanitarian relief, work will focus on the relevant proposals made by the SG/HR in his paper on the Hampton Court follow-up, in particular on the decision-making process, timely planning and transport of relief effort. The need for a clear delineation of tasks involving military action and clear-cut humanitarian options should also be taken into consideration.

4.3. Missions/operations

Operation ALTHEA

As regards Operation ALTHEA, in 2006 the Council will consider options for the future presence of EUFOR in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) in the light of progress made by BiH within the Stabilisation and Association Process (SAP) and an assessment of the impact of elections in 2006.

EUSEC Congo

The mandate of EUSEC RD Congo (EU mission to provide advice and assistance for security sector reform in the Democratic Republic of Congo) is to be extended into 2007.

African Union mission in the Darfur region of Sudan (AMIS II)

In Sudan, the EU will continue effective management of the EU civilian policing and military supporting action to the African Union mission in the Darfur region of Sudan (AMIS II) in consultation with other international actors and taking account of future decisions by the AU on the future of its mission and of the future of the international community's involvement.

European Union Police Mission (EUPM)

With the Joint Action of 24 November 2005¹²⁸, the Council decided that the European Union Police Mission (EUPM) (initially established from 2003-2005) should be continued from 1 January 2006 to 31 December 2007 in a refocused manner. Under the guidance and coordination of the EUSR and as part of the broader rule of law approach in BiH and in the region, the EUPM will continue its approach aiming to establish, through mentoring, monitoring and inspecting, a sustainable, professional and multi-ethnic police service in BiH, operating in accordance with best European and international standards. The police service should operate in accordance with commitments made as part of the Stabilisation and Association process (SAP) with the EU, in particular with regard to the fight against organised crime and police reform. The EUPM will operate in line with the general objectives of Annex 11 of the Dayton/Paris Agreement and its objectives will be supported by European Community instruments. The mission will take the lead in the coordination of policing aspects of the ESDP efforts in the fight against organised crime and will assist local authorities in planning and conducting major and organised crime investigations. The renewed mission, which will number approximately 180 personnel, will focus more specifically on police reform and the fight against organised crime.

Police Advisory Team (EUPAT)

On 15 December 2005 the EU launched a small Police Advisory Team (EUPAT)¹²⁹, which has a mandate of 6 months and which will continue to work on supporting the development of an efficient and professional police force in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, based on European standards of policing.

¹²⁸ Joint Action 2005/824/CFSP of 24 November 2005, OJ L 307, 25.11.2005, p.55.

¹²⁹ Joint Action 2005/826/CFSP of 24 November 2005, OJ L 307, 25.11.2005, p. 61.

EUPOL KINSHASA

As decided in Joint Action 2005/855/CFSP¹³⁰, the mandate of EUPOL KINSHASA has been extended into 2006 following the postponement of the elections in the DRC originally scheduled for June 2005. These elections should be held by July 2006 at the latest, making 2006 a very important year for the DRC and for the Integrated Police Unit supervised by EUPOL KINSHASA. An extension of the mission until 31 December 2006 is envisaged. The continued presence of EUPOL KINSHASA in the DRC illustrates the EU's ongoing commitment to the transitional process in the DRC and its desire to play an active role in helping to maintain peace and stability on the continent.

EUJUST LEX

The EU intends to continue strengthening its relations with Iraq with the launching of negotiations on contractual relations with Iraq in the spring of 2006. Political dialogue at all levels is expected to continue in 2006 with the aim of supporting the constitutionally elected Council of Representatives and the new Government in accordance with the needs established by Iraq, including, if requested, through supporting the process of implementing the Iraqi Constitution. EUJUST LEX, in accordance with its mandate in the CFSP Joint Action, will continue training activity for senior Iraqi officials. The EU will consider further measures to strengthen the rule of law in Iraq.

Aceh Monitoring Mission (AMM)

AMM's mandate was initially set to expire on 15 March 2006. On the basis of a comprehensive review and following an invitation from the Government of Indonesia, supported by GAM, the Council on 27 February 2006 considered that important challenges remain in the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and decided to extend the AMM until 15 June 2006¹³¹. A further extension until 15 September 2006 is to be envisaged depending especially on the final date of local elections in Aceh. The AMM will continue to play an important role in confidence building and in monitoring the implementation of the MoU. According to the MoU, the upcoming period should witness the successful passage of the Law on the Governing of Aceh (LOGA) and the holding of local elections.

¹³⁰ OJ L 305, 24.11.2005, p. 44.

¹³¹ Joint Action 2006/202/CFSP of 27 February 2006, OJ L 71, 10.3.2006, p. 57.

From 15 March 2006, the AMM will consist of 86 unarmed personnel from the EU and the five ASEAN countries as well as from Switzerland and Norway. Mr Pieter Feith will remain Head of Mission of the AMM. He will be supported by a Principal Deputy HoM from an ASEAN contributing country and an EU Deputy HoM for Amnesty, Reintegration and Human Rights.

The AMM will continue to

- monitor the Parties' compliance with their commitments as articulated in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), including the reintegration of ex-GAM members into civil society and the process of legislation change;
- monitor the human rights situation and provide assistance in this field in the context of the reintegration of GAM members into civil society;
- work closely with the two parties on finding a solution on disputed amnesty cases. The AMM Head of Mission will rule on outstanding amnesty cases, according to the mandate given to him in the MoU (Article 3.1.3).

As regards the legislative process, the AMM will respect and not interfere in the work of the National Parliament (DPR) of Indonesia. As part of its remit, the AMM will monitor the process of legislative change and report on this process to the European Union and participating ASEAN capitals. In addition, the AMM will confidentially inform the Government of Indonesia and GAM of its assessments with regard to the compatibility of the draft Law on the Governing of Aceh with the implementation of the MoU.

EUPOL COPPS

Decisions on the further conduct of the operation will take into account other EU activities in the region and the development of the political situation in the Palestinian Territories after the election victory of Hamas. In the meantime, EUPOL COPPS will continue assisting in the implementation of the Palestinian Civil Police Development Plan, advise and mentor senior members of the Palestinian Civil Police and criminal justice system, and coordinate EU and, where requested, international assistance to the Palestinian Civil Police as provided for in Joint Action 2005/797/CFSP¹³².

¹³² OJ L 300, 17.11.2005.

EU BAM Rafah

In the case of this mission too, decisions regarding its further conduct will have to duly take into account the development of the political situation in the Palestinian territories after the establishment of a Hamas-led Palestinian government and particularly the parties' continued commitment to the Agreement on Movement and Access (15 November 2005). In the meantime, EU BAM Rafah will continue to actively monitor, verify and evaluate Palestinian performance at the Rafah border crossing of the Gaza-Egypt border; help to build up Palestinian capacity in all aspects of border management at Rafah; and contribute to liaison between the Palestinian, Israeli and Egyptian authorities on management of the Rafah border-crossing.

Kosovo

On Kosovo, a Joint Fact-Finding Mission Report from the Council and European Commission was distributed to Member States in March 2006. This report outlined the state of play in the field of Rule of Law (Police and Justice); the possible tasks for which the EU may be requested to take responsibility; and a number of recommendations on the possible way ahead. In the area of ESDP, a Planning Team established through the adoption of a Joint Action will carry forward detailed work on the establishment of a possible future mission on the ground. As the status negotiations progress, a gradual build-up of personnel on the ground is envisaged, either as part of the Planning Team or as a precursor for the mission itself.

DRC

Following a UN request in December 2005 for EU support to MONUC during the 2006 election process, the Union started preparations at the beginning of 2006 for providing such temporary assistance. EU support for MONUC will mainly take the form of generating a military force with advance elements to be stationed in the Kinshasa region which, if needed, can be deployed in the DRC at short notice to supplement MONUC's efforts if needed. The possibility of an additional police effort, through a temporary reinforcement of EUPOL Kinshasa, is also being looked at in this context.

CIVILIAN HEADLINE GOAL 2008

The Civilian Capability Improvement Plan (adopted by the General Affairs and External Relations Council on 12 December 2005) contains a comprehensive outline of the Civilian Headline Goal 2008 (CHG) process in 2006, as well as indications of possible ways to overcome remaining shortfalls.

The Plan commits Member States to:

- Address highest priority shortfalls according to a “targeted list” of priority shortfalls based on a comprehensive overview of capability shortfalls;
- Actively foster the involvement of key national stakeholders in ESDP civilian crisis-management, notably amongst those involved in the raising of mission personnel in each priority area for ESDP civilian crisis management; and
- Share best practice of national coordinating structures aimed at facilitating the mobilisation of civilian resources for crisis management and the liaison with the EU and international organisations.

In accordance with the Civilian Capability Improvement Plan, the Council Secretariat, under the guidance of the PSC supported by CIVCOM, will:

- Explore, with the individual Member States concerned, additional details concerning the state of readiness of personnel indicated by Member States;
- Establish, in consultation with Member States’ experts, a “targeted list” of the highest-priority capability shortfalls and a system to ensure that Member States’ efforts to address them are coordinated;
- Ensure that capability requirements are stated in terms which allow swift matching with Member States’ records;
- Facilitate, in close cooperation with technical experts from the Member States, the examination of mechanisms by which Member States raise personnel for civilian missions, with a view to sharing best practice and further improving the understanding of Member States' capabilities;

- Issue, by April 2006, a Mission Support Concept covering equipment procurement and disposal, logistics and operations support, security, human resources, and finance; to this end the General Secretariat and the Commission should put forward concrete proposals on the issue of procurement and mission support;
- Outline a generic Mission Support Requirement for civilian crisis management operations, including fact-finding missions and issue a Mission Support Requirements Questionnaire to Member States;
- Draw up a Training Paper, in cooperation with the Commission as appropriate, which brings together the training requirement for civilian aspects of crisis management;
- Invite non-EU States, notably acceding States, candidate countries, non-EU European NATO members and other third States which have concluded a framework agreement on participation in EU crisis-management operations, to provide separate additional contributions to the Targeted List of Priority Shortfalls;
- Share best practice and expertise in consultation with other international actors engaged in the field of civilian crisis-management, respecting EU agreed procedures and modalities;
- Establish terms of reference and a pool of experts for Civilian Response Teams (CRTs), in consultation with other international actors, notably the UN;
- Establish a concept for, and deliver, CRT induction training;
- Put an initial CRT pool of experts of up to 100 experts in place by the end of 2006; and
- Take forward other work outlined in the agreed CRT concept.

In line with agreed concepts, rapid deployment of police may be required in some EU civilian missions. Proper identification of these police elements and procedures for their rapid deployment should be taken forward.

The Civilian Headline Goal process in 2006 will continue to be coordinated with the military Headline Goal 2010. International organisations, in particular the UN and the OSCE, will continue to be consulted.

General aspects

On exercises, a first EU civilian exercise workshop, focusing on EU rapid response in the civilian area, and another civilian exercise workshop focusing on Police, will be conducted in the coming year.

On training, a paper containing proposals on meeting future challenges in training civilian staff for crisis management missions will be presented in the first semester. The training of the future Civilian Response Teams (CRTs) will begin.

The Institute for Strategic Studies (ISS) will conduct a case study on gender mainstreaming with regard to ESDP operations. The case study will serve as a basis for reviewing measures to implement UNSCR 1325.

4.4. ESDP Support for Peace and Security in Africa

The EU Strategy for Africa (The EU and Africa: Towards a Strategic Partnership)

In December 2005, the European Council approved the EU Strategy for Africa, *The EU and Africa: Towards a Strategic Partnership*, approved by the European Council in December 2005. A fundamental part of the Strategy consists of supporting the African Union, sub-regional organisations and African countries in the areas of peace and security, developing the African Stand-by Force and continuing to implement the Action Plan for ESDP in Africa, including through the potential deployment of EU battle-groups and civilian crisis management missions. An essential element of the strategy is the renewal of the EU-Africa dialogue.

The development of the African Standby Force is taking shape through the European Development Fund (in the framework of the EU-ACP Partnership Agreement of Cotonou), which reserved EUR 250 million for the three years ending in 2006. The renewal of the African Peace Facility through the European Development Fund has been confirmed as from 2007 (EUR 100 million a year). The EU Strategy for Africa also comprises provisions on the demobilisation, disarmament and reintegration of former combatants (DDR), Security Sector Reform (SSR), weapons trafficking and terrorism.

In 2006, the EU will work on the implementation of the EU Strategy for Africa. Work will continue in the area of civilian crisis management, notably through ESDP missions (EUPOL Kinshasa, EUSEC RDC and the EU supporting action to AMIS II), and support for the development of the African Stand-by-Force. In concrete terms, the EU will act as the Leading Partner in the Workshops on Doctrine and Standard Operating Procedures. This will involve providing input and coordinating international partners' contributions to the civilian and military concepts of the ASF as well as providing finance.

During the course of the year, the EU also plans to prepare a European Concept for the Strengthening of African capabilities for the management and prevention of conflicts.

5. EUROPEAN UNION SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVES

EUSR in the FYROM

In February 2006, the Council decided to extend the mandate of Erwan Fouéré as EUSR for the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia until 28 February 2007 (with a financial reference amount of EUR 675000).¹³³

The main challenges for the EUSR during 2006 will be to continue to promote the full implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement and to continue to support the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in its EU-integration efforts. The EUSR will also be active with regard to upcoming political challenges, including the preparations for the forthcoming parliamentary elections, and possible security challenges. The EUSR will furthermore continue to assist in the coordination of the international community. In the area of police, the EUSR will provide guidance to the EU Police Advisory Team (EUPAT) until the end of its mandate and ensure effective coordination between EUPAT and the other EU-funded police assistance programmes.

¹³³ Joint Action 2006/123/CFSP, OJ L 49, 21.2.2006, p 20

The "personal union", by which Erwan Fouéré has been simultaneously filling the positions of EUSR and Head of the Commission Delegation in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia since 1 November 2005, should facilitate full synchronisation of the EUSR- and EC-led activities in the country

EUSR in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH)

If the Peace Implementation Council decides to phase out the Office of the High Representative (OHR) in BiH by 2007, the Council may consider the possibility of the EU leading a follow-on mission. The preparations for the transition from the OHR to an EUSR-led mission will necessitate a review of the mandate of the EUSR in BiH.

On 30 January 2006, the Council appointed Dr Schwarz-Schilling as the new EUSR in BiH with effect from 1 February 2006 ¹³⁴. Dr Schwarz-Schilling has extensive expertise in BiH. As an international mediator at a local level inside BiH, he spent ten years travelling to every part of the country working with community leaders to foster dialogue and rebuild trust. For more information please refer to the EUSR website www.eusrbih.org which features up-to-the-minute news regarding the EUSR's activities and strategic priorities.

EUSR for Moldova

The Transnistrian conflict, on which the EU will continue to work towards a settlement with all relevant actors, remains a major political challenge. The EUSR for Moldova, whose mandate has been prolonged by another year ¹³⁵, now has a team of four people working for him in the field. In addition, the Head of EUBAM to Moldova and Ukraine is his senior political advisor. This does not have budget implications for the EUSR's mandate. The EUSR will continue to represent the EU in the 5+2 settlement talks. The EUBAM will continue to contribute to establishing effective control on the Ukrainian-Moldovan State border.

¹³⁴ Joint Action 2006/49/CFSP, OJ L 26, 31.1.2006, p. 21

¹³⁵ Joint Action 2006/120/CFSP, OJ L 49, 21.2.2006, p. 11.

EUSR for the South Caucasus

The mandate of the current EUSR for the South Caucasus, Ambassador Heikki Talvitie came to an end on 28 February 2006. Ambassador Peter Semneby was appointed EUSR for the South Caucasus as of 1 March 2006 until 28 February 2007 (Council Joint Action 2006/121/CFSP, published in OJ L 49, pp. 14 to 16).

During 2006, Ambassador Semneby will continue to assist Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia in carrying out political and economic reforms, notably in the fields of rule of law, democracy, human rights, good governance, development and poverty reduction. He will also, in accordance with existing mechanisms, contribute to the prevention of conflicts and to helping create the conditions for progress on settlement of conflicts. The EUSR Border Support Team will continue to cooperate closely with the Georgian government to reform the border security system and in this way enable Georgia to develop a professional and effective border guard service.

EUSR for the Middle East peace process

The Palestinian legislative elections on 25 January 2006 led to an overwhelming victory for Hamas and a major set-back for Fatah. The electoral process was widely recognised as free and fair. Israeli legislative elections were to be held on 28 March 2006.

The political prospects for 2006 are uncertain. With regard to the Hamas electoral victory, the EU and its Quartet partners have underlined that violence and terror are incompatible with democratic processes and have laid down principles for engagement with a new Palestinian government; that it renounce violence and terror, that it recognise Israel's right to exist and that it respect previous agreements. They have moreover put forward their expectation that the newly elected Palestinian Legislative Council will support the formation of a government committed to a peaceful and negotiated solution of the conflict with Israel based on existing agreements and the Roadmap. While awaiting the formation of the new cabinet, the international community is weighing its options.

The political developments on the Palestinian side, as well as the outcome of the Israeli elections, will determine the margin of manoeuvre and the possible degree of engagement for some time to come. In the meantime, the EUSR is pursuing his action, including guidance to EU BAM Rafah and EUPOL COPPS, and coordination within the Quartet and with regional and international contacts. He and his team maintain a permanent presence in the region.

EUSR for the African Great Lakes Region

In the DRC the EUSR, together with all actors involved, will maintain pressure on and provide assistance to the Congolese authorities to conclude the transition period successfully by holding elections, expected at the end of the first half of 2006. The post-conflict reconstruction and socio-economic development of Burundi will be the main focus of the EUSR's activities in 2006, again in close cooperation with the international community. With Rwanda, the EUSR will continue efforts to ensure the successful completion of DDRRR with the focus on the repatriation of FDLR, ex-FAR/Interahamwe from the DRC, while increasing the EU's attention to the internal reconciliation process and the justice system, including gacaca. The EUSR will remain involved in the preparatory work for the International Conference on the GLR and he will participate in the second summit scheduled to take place in the second half of 2006.

EUSR for Sudan

One of the main challenges for 2006 will be to contribute to progress towards a solution of the Darfur conflict, through stabilisation of the security situation and early agreement at the Abuja talks.

In this regard, the EUSR and his team will continue to work closely with the relevant EU institutions, the Presidency and Member States in order to ensure coherence of the EU's support for AMIS and consistent EU engagement with the AU and UN during the planning for a possible transition to a UN mission. Similarly, the EUSR's office will maintain its presence at the Abuja talks, with the EUSR himself attending the talks as required. Finally, the EUSR will remain engaged with respect to the implementation of the CPA and continue to encourage both Sudanese government partners to work together in good faith and in keeping with the objectives of the CPA, including the development of a common approach to the Darfur peace process.

EUSR for Afghanistan

The Council decided to extend the mandate of the EUSR for Afghanistan until 28 February 2007¹³⁶. The revised EUSR mandate is based on policy objectives to further enhance EU engagement with Afghanistan as outlined in Council's conclusions of 30 January 2006. The EU committed itself to long-term support for the Government and people of Afghanistan through Afghan-led security and governance reform. The establishment of Afghanistan's Parliament marked the formal completion of the implementation of the Bonn agreement. The country has achieved significant progress in the last few years, but significant challenges remain (security, governance, rule of law and human rights, economic and social development, counter-narcotics). The EUSR will contribute to the implementation of the EU - Afghanistan Joint Political Declaration, signed in November 2005, and the Afghanistan Compact, adopted by the London Conference. In line with EU objectives, overall EUSR activities will broadly aim at fostering the establishment of a democratic, accountable and sustainable Afghan State. The EUSR will pay special attention to governance and administrative reform, judicial and security sector reform, human rights, democratisation and transitional justice.

EUSR for Central Asia

The Council has decided to extend the mandate of the EUSR for Central Asia (Mr Ján Kubiš) until 28 February 2007¹³⁷ and provided adequate financial means for the implementation of his mandate (EUR 900,000 for a 12-month period). Central Asia continues to be both a source and a victim of the threats identified by the European Security Strategy - terrorism, WMD proliferation, regional conflicts, State failure and organised crime. The EUSR intends to work with Central Asian countries and all relevant international partners to address these threats and promote EU policy objectives in the region, paying close attention to stability considerations and promoting democracy and human rights. The EUSR will also give due consideration to issues relating to the security of energy supply from Central Asia. In concrete terms, the EUSR will address the situation in Uzbekistan and seek mutually acceptable solutions for problems stemming from Andijan events in 2005 on the basis of EU Council Conclusions and other relevant EU documents.

¹³⁶ Council Joint Action 2006/124/CFSP, OJ L 49, 21.2.2006, p. 21.

¹³⁷ Joint Action 2006/121/CFSP, OJ L 49, 21.2.2006, p. 14.

In addition, by the end of 2006 the EUSR intends to devise policy recommendations for further enhancement of EU relations with Central Asia.

6. CONFLICT PREVENTION

Work will continue in 2006 to implement the EU Programme for the Prevention of Violent Conflicts. A workshop organised by the Folke Bernadotte Academy and the Madariaga European Foundation, in cooperation with the Austrian Presidency, on "Conflict Prevention: Creating a Leading Role for the European Union" will constitute an important element of this effort. The aim of this workshop will be to identify existing EU conflict prevention instruments and how to use them in practice in current and potential activities. Its main focus will be on internal challenges and tasks at the level of both the European Union and the Member States. This workshop will be the first in a two-year programme which will continue through the organisation of further workshops during the Finnish, German and Portuguese Presidencies.

Building on the practice established under previous Presidencies, a conference on Conflict Prevention will be organised in May 2006 jointly by the Austrian Presidency, the European Commission and the European Peace Building Liaison office (EPLO).

The European Council will also adopt in June 2006 the annual Report on EU activities in the framework of prevention, including implementation of the EU Programme for the Prevention of Violent Conflicts.

7. FINANCING OF CFSP/ESDP

The CFSP budget for 2006 agreed in the 2005 Budgetary process is 102,6 Mio Euro. In a report noted by the Political and Security Committee¹³⁸, on "CFSP Budget - priority action for 2006 and 2007", a number of foreseeable actions were indicated in the area of civilian crisis management, non-proliferation of WMD and SALW, EUSRs and counter-terrorism.

¹³⁸ 14970/05

It was recommended that the Council state that it expected the Commission to reflect the financial needs of the CFSP budget as set out in the report in its proposal for the Preliminary Draft Budget (PDB) for 2007.

Among the challenges ahead, in particular EU action in Kosovo is likely to require substantial means. According to Article 28(3) TEU, operating expenditure is to be charged to the budget of the European Communities, except for cases where the Council acting unanimously decides otherwise. In the discussions within the Council on a contingency basis on how any shortfall might be covered in the event of the amount allocated to the CFSP budget proving to be insufficient, an increase in the CFSP budget within the Community budget was the clear preference for Member States. The Presidency report on ESDP to the European Council in December 2005 invited the Austrian Presidency to continue work on securing adequate financing for civilian ESDP operations through the CFSP budget in the negotiations on the Inter-Institutional Agreement (IIA) and in the annual budgetary process.

A review of the ATHENA-mechanism is envisaged in course of 2006.

8. CFSP GEOGRAPHICAL PRIORITIES

8.1. Western Balkans

Thessaloniki Agenda and the Stabilisation and Association Process (SAP)

In January 2006, the European Commission presented a Communication to the Council "The Western Balkans on the road to the EU: consolidating stability and raising prosperity"¹³⁹. It sets out concrete measures to reinforce the EU's policy and instruments, and to help the countries to realise their European perspective.

The Council will assist in taking forward the Commission proposals notably in visa facilitation and removing obstacles to trade and investment.

¹³⁹ COM (2006) 27 final, 27.1.2006

Albania

A Stabilisation and Association Agreement and an interim agreement with Albania, which will allow for all trade-related matters to enter into force, were initialled in February 2006. The signing of these agreements is foreseen for June 2006.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

The first official round of SAA negotiations took place on 25 January 2006 in Sarajevo. Further rounds are planned for March, May, June, July, October and November, with the aim of concluding negotiations by the end of 2006, if possible. To maintain momentum in this regard, the Council on 12 December 2005 urged further progress in particular in development of the legislative framework and administrative capacity, implementation of police reform, adoption and implementation of all necessary Public Broadcasting legislation, and full cooperation with the ICTY.

General elections are scheduled to take place in October 2006. Negotiations on constitutional changes are crucial to create a more efficient and self-sustainable state.

A Police Reform Implementation plan has to be prepared by 30 September 2006. Entity and State governments have to approve the Police Reform Implementation plan by 31 December 2006.

Discussions on the future transition from OHR to an EUSR-led mission are expected to be held during 2006.

Croatia

The EU-Croatia Association Council met on 10 April 2006 to take stock of EU-Croatia relations.

EU accession negotiations are now underway with Croatia. The negotiating process is being conducted in conformity with the Negotiating Framework and the Croatia Accession partnership is progressing well on the economic criteria and has made significant progress on the political criteria. Further efforts will be necessary on judicial and legislative reforms and Croatia will be encouraged to continue the implementation of economic reforms and full cooperation with the ICTY.

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Following the granting of candidate status in December 2005 to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Council will monitor, on the basis of the Commission's progress reports, further progress in implementing the Stabilisation and Association Agreement and other issues and criteria included in the Commission's Opinion and in the priorities of the European Partnership.

Serbia and Montenegro

SAA negotiations will remain at the centre of the relations between the EU and SaM. The pace of this process will continue to depend on the SaM capacity to implement reforms and respect its international obligations. As indicated by the Council in January, the conclusion of negotiations will also depend on full cooperation with the ICTY, i.e. on taking decisive action to ensure that remaining fugitive indictees, notably Mladic and Karadzic, are brought to justice.

The outcome of the proposed referendum in Montenegro will impact on the State Union. The overall process will therefore require the utmost attention by the EU.

Serbia and Montenegro/Montenegro

The Council, in January, stated that a consensus on the modalities of the referendum in Montenegro and its conduct in line with international standards will provide the process and the outcome with the necessary legitimacy and sustainability. Building on the results of the EU-sponsored dialogue on the organisation of the referendum, the EU will have to continue to play a specific role in this process in order to ensure that it is compatible with internationally recognised democratic standards, stability and continued progress towards the EU.

Serbia and Montenegro/Kosovo

The Council will pay close attention to political developments and continuing stabilisation in Kosovo, as defined by UN Security Council Resolution 1244, and throughout the region in light of the negotiations on the future status led by the UN Status Envoy, Martti Ahtisaari, and the preparations for an enhanced role of the EU in the post-status Kosovo. In this context, the EU needs to prepare and make several important decisions concerning, *inter alia*, its future presence in Kosovo, ESDP and Rule of Law Mission and its assistance for the implementation of the future status.

8.2. Eastern Europe and Central Asia

Russian Federation

As envisaged at the sixteenth EU-Russia Summit in London on 4 October 2005, activities during the first half of 2006 will continue to focus on the implementation of the Road Maps for the four common spaces. The intention is also to finalise the signature and ratification of the agreements on visa facilitation and readmission. It is planned to sign a TACIS special programme for the North Caucasus (20 Million euros). The Human Rights Consultations between the EU and Russia will be held in March.

The Council will continue the discussions on a new framework for relations replacing the 1997 Partnership and Cooperation Agreement with Russia. The EU should aim to make energy dialogue more effective. For example, the EU/Russia Summit in November 2006 should make this a key element: the Summit could work on commitments agreed under the Russian-led G8 summit held in St Petersburg in July at which Energy Security is also the priority area.

Belarus

The EU will continue its efforts to support democratisation and civil society in Belarus. In case the Belarusian authorities fail to uphold international standards in the Presidential elections of 19 March and their aftermath, the Council is ready to consider applying further restrictive measures against the individuals responsible. In May or June the Council might take a decision concerning temporary withdrawal of GSP for Belarus, if Belarusian authorities fail to address in a timely and adequate fashion systematic and serious violations of freedom of association in Belarus.

Ukraine

As envisaged at the EU-Ukraine Summit in Kiev on 1 December 2005, activities during the first half of 2006 will continue to focus on the implementation of the EU-Ukraine Action Plan, in particular the conclusion of visa facilitation and readmission agreements and continuing EU support for Ukraine's WTO accession, which would allow for the establishment of an EU-Ukraine FTA. Special attention will be paid to the Parliamentary elections on 26 March 2006.

Both the EU and Ukraine will launch consultations on a new EU-Ukraine enhanced agreement after the political priorities of the EU-Ukraine Action Plan have been addressed. The EU-Ukraine Cooperation Council, scheduled for 16 May 2006, will provide the opportunity to assess the implementation of the Action Plan to date and identify challenges ahead.

Moldova

One major challenge is the implementation of the ENP Action Plan with Moldova. While some progress has been made in 2005, further significant progress is needed.

A Cooperation Council is scheduled to take place in Luxembourg on 11 April 2006.

A major political challenge is the Transnistrian conflict where the EU will continue to work towards a settlement with all relevant actors. The EUSR for Moldova, whose mandate has been prolonged by another year, has now a team of four people working for him in the field. In addition, the Head of EUBAM to Moldova and Ukraine is his senior political advisor. This has budget implications. The EU border mission, EUBAM, will continue to contribute to the establishment of effective controls on the Ukrainian-Moldovan state border. It is necessary to further enhance the mission in order to allow it to achieve its ambitious objectives. Financing under the Rapid Reaction Mechanism is limited to six months.

South Caucasus

In relation to the South Caucasus, the Council is expected to adopt the three ENP Action Plans during the first half of 2006. The Cooperation Councils concerned will be invited to approve the action plans after their adoption by the Council.

The EUSR Border Support Team in Georgia will continue to cooperate closely with the Georgian government to reform the border security system.

The EUSR for South Caucasus will continue to carry out his mandates, inter alia to assist Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia in carrying out political and economic reforms and to further contribute to conflict prevention and the settlement of conflicts in the region (Nagorno-Karabakh, South Ossetia and Abkhazia).

Central Asia

The main focus of EU relations with Central Asia in 2006 will be continuous activities of the EUSR for Central Asian and revision of restrictive measures against Uzbekistan. A Regional Dialogue meeting between the EU and countries of Central Asia is due to take place in April in Almaty. A High Level Conference on Enhancing Environmental Co-operation between the EU and Central Asia will take place in Almaty on 6 April 2006.

8.3. Middle East peace process

The PLC elections on 25 January 2006 which were conducted in an electoral process that was free and fair resulted in a clear victory for Hamas. The EU and the Quartet made it clear that they expect the new Palestinian Government to commit itself to the principles of non-violence, recognition of Israel, and acceptance of previous agreements and obligations including the Roadmap. The EU emphasised the central role of President Abbas and undertook to support him in his determination to pursue a peaceful solution to the conflict with Israel. The EU has called on Israel to desist from any action, such as settlement activities and the construction of the separation barrier on Palestinian land, that is contrary to international law and threatens the viability of an agreed two-State solution. Against the background of the Quartet's appeal for measures to facilitate the work of the interim Palestinian Government, the EU decided to provide additional emergency assistance to the Palestinian people and to authorise the release of part of the resources from the World Bank Trust Fund. The EU has also undertaken to continue to provide necessary assistance to meet the basic needs of the Palestinian population. The EU together with the Quartet will assess the situation once the new Palestinian Government is formed and presents its program, particularly with respect to the issue of assistance, including the ESDP missions BAM Rafah and EU COPPS.

The ESDP Missions EUPOL COPPS and EU BAM Rafah are both crucial EU contributions to the Middle East Peace Process in that they help build confidence between the two Parties. EU BAM Rafah contributes to helping to alleviate the humanitarian situation of Palestinians living in the Gaza Strip.

These missions form part of the effort, as laid down in the Roadmap, towards a negotiated two-State-solution agreed between the parties which would result in a viable, contiguous, sovereign, democratic and independent Palestinian State living side by side with Israel, within recognised and secure borders.

8.4. Turkey

The EU accession negotiations are now underway with Turkey. The negotiating process is being conducted in conformity with the December 2004 European Council conclusions, the negotiating framework and the revised Accession Partnership with Turkey. Turkey is progressing well in the economic field and continues to sufficiently fulfil the Copenhagen political criteria. Close monitoring will then be at the centre of the discussions with Turkey in the various political dialogue fora. The question of Cyprus and the peaceful settlement of disputes and Turkey's unequivocal commitment to good neighbourly relations will also continue to be covered in this dialogue. Turkey will also be encouraged to take concrete steps for the normalisation of bilateral relations with all Member States, including Cyprus, as soon as possible. Special attention will be given to the awaited ratification and implementation of the Adaptation Protocol to the Ankara Agreement. The EU will ensure a follow-up in 2006 on the progress made on relevant issues set out in the Declaration of the EC and its Member States of 21 September 2005 (review clause envisaged in the Declaration by the European Community and its Member States of 21 September 2005, in response to the Declaration by Turkey of 29 July 2005). The EU will also continue encouraging change in Turkey's policy of opposition to Cyprus' membership of international organisations and mechanisms such as the Wassenaar Arrangement.

8.5. Mediterranean Region

During 2006, under the Austrian and Finnish Presidencies, work will concentrate on the implementation of the Five-Year Work Programme agreed at the Barcelona Summit. The Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, reinforced by the European Neighbourhood Policy constitutes a powerful confidence-building mechanism for and between all the countries involved. The assessment of this implementation will be made by the next Euromed Conference of Foreign Ministers, to be held under the Finnish Presidency in Tampere in November 2006.

8.6. Middle East / Gulf

Iran

The nuclear issue will remain a major issue of concern for the EU. Efforts trying to persuade Iran to return to full suspension of enrichment-related and reprocessing activities will continue. This includes showing a united international front and reinforcing IAEA's authority through the UN Security Council. The EU will continue close consultations with Russia, China and the US on the way forward.

The EU will continue to closely follow all the issues of concern in relation to Iran: terrorism, the proliferation of WMD, Iran's approach to the Middle East Peace process, human rights and fundamental freedoms and regional issues. The EU will be ready to continue the comprehensive political dialogue and the human rights dialogue. The EU will continue to register its concerns on these issues directly to Iranian authorities as well as in EU statements and international meetings.

Iraq

The EU intends to continue strengthening its relations with Iraq with the launching of negotiations on contractual relations with Iraq in the spring of 2006. Political dialogue at all levels is expected to continue in 2006 with the aim of supporting the constitutionally elected Council of Representatives and the new Government in accordance with the needs established by Iraq, including, if requested, through support for the process of implementing the Iraqi Constitution.

Gulf Cooperation Council

Finalisation of the negotiations on a Free Trade Agreement remains the priority for the EU and the GCC. Provided these negotiations succeed, the EU will expect to be able to progress together with the Members of the GCC in implementing the EU Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean and the Middle East.

8.7. Asia-Oceania

a) South Asia

South Asia

The EU will continue work to develop its strategy towards the region of South Asia as a whole. It will particularly seek to promote regional cooperation in key areas such as water, energy and climate. The EU will also explore the potential for developing closer institutional contacts with SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation).

Afghanistan

Following the first EU ministerial Troika meeting with Afghanistan (held on 31 January 2006), the EU's principal objective is to maintain the very positive momentum in its relations with Afghanistan. The EU-Afghanistan Joint Declaration maps out a number of areas for cooperation, which will now require implementation. In particular, the EU attaches great importance to establishing good relations with the new Afghan Parliament. Implementation of the Afghanistan Compact, agreed at the London Conference "Building on Success" of 31 January 2006, will set the international agenda for the next five years. The EU supports all three pillars of activity identified in the Compact (security; governance, rule of law and human rights; sustainable economic and social development), as well as the cross-cutting priority of counter-narcotics.

India

The EU will continue working to implement the EU-India Joint Action Plan. Particular attention will be devoted to new areas of activity provided for in the Joint Action Plan, such as establishing the bilateral India-EU Security Dialogue at Senior Official level. This will include regular consultations on global and regional security issues, disarmament and counter-proliferation. The seventh EU-India Summit is due to take place in Helsinki in October 2006 and will take stock of progress in implementation of the Joint Action Plan since the last Summit.

Pakistan

The EU will continue to seek the early conclusion of a readmission agreement with Pakistan. This would open the way to a formalised but flexible political dialogue covering various areas of common concern as yet not discussed between the two sides. Political attention within the EU will inevitably focus on preparations for the 2007 parliamentary elections. The EU will also remain committed to assisting Pakistan (and Pakistani-administered Kashmir) with managing the consequences of the devastating earthquake that struck South Asia on 8 October 2005.

Nepal

After King Gyanendra's decision on 24 April 2006 to reinstate the House of Representatives, and the King's recognition that sovereignty in Nepal belongs to the people, the country is on track towards forming an interim government when the reinstated Parliament convenes on 28 April 2006. The EU commits itself to work with and to assist the democratic institutions which it hopes to see emerge from the present situation. At the same time, the EU will continue strongly to support the activity of UN OHCHR (Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights) in Nepal. The EU will also offer every support to the United Nations' coordinating role in Nepal .

Bhutan

The EU will continue to press for progress towards a sustainable solution to the predicament of the 100 000 uprooted people of contested nationality in the refugee camps of East Nepal. The EU will also follow developments surrounding the projected introduction (in 2007 or 2008) of a new Constitution. The EU is a participant in the ninth Bhutanese Roundtable of donors, to be held in Geneva on 15-16 February 2006.

Sri Lanka

The direction of events in Sri Lanka during 2006 will largely depend on whatever progress may be made in negotiations between the Government of Sri Lanka and the LTTE. The EU looks to both sides to adopt a flexible approach, resulting in improved implementation of the Ceasefire Agreement. This should provide an opportunity to advance a peaceful solution to the conflict. The EU remains committed to supporting this, including as one of the Tokyo Co-Chairs.

Bangladesh

The EU will seek to encourage the Government of Bangladesh to follow through with a strategic, long-term approach to countering terrorism and extremism. This will be particularly important in the period leading up to the forthcoming general election, which must be held by January 2007. The EU will explore the possibility of sending an Election Observation Mission to monitor this election. More generally, the EU will continue to work through the Tuesday Group and the Donor Forum to promote good governance in Bangladesh.

Maldives

The EU will maintain pressure on the government to make demonstrable progress in pursuing its announced programme of rapid political reform.

b) South East Asia

The EU will continue negotiations of Trade and Cooperation Agreements with Singapore, Thailand and Indonesia and possibly start negotiations with the Philippines. The EU will also ensure the success of the next ARF ministerial meeting due to take place in Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) in July. The EU will actively participate in ARF ISG and expert meetings and will seek to contribute actively on initiatives regarding non-traditional security issues.

The EU also intends to follow the situation in the individual countries.

The EU will continue to promote democracy, national reconciliation and human rights in Burma/Myanmar. To this end, it will remain in close contact with China, Japan, India and ASEAN and it will lend its support to UN efforts in the country. The EU will continue to seek the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and other political prisoners from house arrest or prison. The EU will also call for the inclusiveness and transparency of the National Convention which has again been suspended until the end of the year. The General Affairs Council in April will decide on the renewal of the Common Position regarding restrictive measures against Burma / Myanmar¹⁴⁰.

¹⁴⁰ Common Position 2005/340/CFSP, OJ L 108, 29.4.2005, p. 88.

A successful EU-Indonesia Ministerial Troika took place during the first quarter of 2006. Concerning Aceh, the Council will continue to encourage the full implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding which should lead to full stabilisation and sustainable development in Aceh. The Council in February decided on the extension of the AMM, focusing on the remaining tasks of fostering the full reintegration of former combatants, the adoption of a new Law on Governing Aceh (LOGA), the conversion of GAM into a political movement, effective protection of human rights and the rule of law and the holding of elections currently planned for late May/early June 2006. The Council will continue to press for the international efforts for economic and social reconstruction to be maintained, including through EC programmes and bilateral action by EU Member States.

The EU will continue active cooperation with Australia and New Zealand. There will be Ministerial Troikas with New Zealand in both halves of the year, and one with Australia in the second half of 2006.

2006 will be devoted to the preparation of the ASEM VI Summit which will mark the culmination of the reflection on the future of ASEM after ten years of existence. The Summit will also deal with the difficult issue of ASEM future enlargements (to take account, inter alia, of the forthcoming accession of Bulgaria and Romania to the EU). Another challenge for ASEM in 2006 will be the re-launching of the economic pillar after the difficulties encountered in 2005. A Finance Ministers meeting, a Labour Ministers meeting, and possibly an Economics Ministers meeting are scheduled to take place during 2006.

c) North East Asia

The EU is committed to a successful EU-China Summit which is to take place in Helsinki in September 2006. During 2006, the EU will seek to begin as soon as possible negotiations for a Partnership and Co-operation Agreement which should replace the existing 1985 Trade and Co-operation Agreement. The EU will continue to follow closely the development of relations across the Taiwan Straits.

The forthcoming EU-Japan Summit, scheduled for the end of April 2006 in Tokyo, will address specific areas for future action and cooperation, notably on the basis of the 2001 EU-Japan Action Plan. The strategic dialogue on East Asia will be further developed. A symposium on EU-Japan relations will be organised in Europe in April 2006 to mark the 5th year of co-operation under the Action Plan.

Regarding the Korean Peninsula, all attention will be focussed in 2006 on a possible resumption of the Six-Party talks between the DPRK, the RoK, the US, Russia, China and Japan. The EU is not participating in the talks but has repeatedly expressed its readiness, when the time is ripe, to contribute to international efforts aimed at moving matters forward.

8.8. Africa

Chad

The situation in Chad will continue to be considered in the framework of the EU's policy towards the Darfur conflict and the whole of Sudan. The deterioration of the relations between Chad and Sudan has increased concerns that the effects of internal instability in Chad could add a regional dimension to the Darfur conflict. It will be an important challenge to defuse tensions between the two countries, minimising the potential for a further escalation of the Darfur conflict into a regional crisis.

Central African Republic

The EU will pursue a strengthened political dialogue with the Central African authorities with a view to supporting the re-establishment of the rule of law and economic and social stabilisation in the country. In this regard, the Union will monitor progress made in the implementation of the commitments made by the government with respect to, for instance, political pluralism, the application of the rule of law, including the independence of the judicial system, respect for human rights and good economic and public sector governance. Similarly, the EU will continue to follow closely the situation in the Central African Republic with a view to supporting possible initiatives to further ensure security and stability in the country.

DRC

The pursuit of the EUSEC RD Congo, including its chain of payments project, should be stressed. This is essential in view of the upcoming elections and for the stable and sustainable development of the country as unpaid military units have been at the origin of acts of indiscipline and disruptions. At the request of MONUC, EUPOL Kinshasa will be reinforced in view of the elections. In the same vein a European military operation (EUFOR RD Congo) will be launched in 2006 in support of the upcoming elections. The EU policy on the DRC concentrates on support for post-electoral stability, post-transition reconstruction of the country, and good governance.

Eritrea

EU will pursue its efforts to reactivate the dialogue with the government of Eritrea in the framework of Article 8 of the Cotonou agreement.

Ethiopia

The EU will maintain its active engagement in the promotion of multi-party democracy and renewed dialogue between government and opposition while avoiding further violence, supporting the renewal of the democratisation process, strengthening democratic institutions and encouraging reconciliation. An important aspect of this will be to seek a strengthening of civil society. The EU will continue to monitor progress towards democratisation and respect for human rights and address issues of concern with the Ethiopian authorities.

Ethiopia-Eritrea

The EU will continue its active involvement in efforts to defuse tensions between the two countries and to break the stalemate in the border demarcation between Ethiopia and Eritrea, lending its full support to diplomatic initiatives in this regard.

Kenya

The EU will closely follow the political situation in Kenya, paying particular attention to the measures taken by the government to curb high-level corruption, and to developments with a view to the 2007 elections.

Somalia

Building on the significant progress achieved in the Somali peace and reconciliation process and the momentum towards a consolidation of the Somali Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs), the EU will continue to encourage the Institutions to continue working together to establish conditions to permit peace, stability and security and the restoration of effective governance in Somalia.

In concert with the rest of the international community, the EU will contribute with effective assistance to Somalia. The EU should, in principle, be ready to support Somali-owned governance and security sector initiatives, which, over time, contribute to creating capacities for managing security threats and facilitating the rule of law. In this context, the EU is ready to consider the possibility of providing support to the development of the police and the judiciary, as well as supporting DDR activities and involvement by the AU in the security sector, when conditions permit and if requested.

Sudan

The EU will sustain efforts to contribute to a political, negotiated solution to the Darfur conflict, interacting with all the parties in the Darfur conflict - the Sudanese Government and the rebel movements, international partners (the UN, the US, Canada, etc.) and regional stakeholders. It will continue to honour its commitment to provide the AU with support - in political terms, financially and as regards practical and logistical assistance - in its efforts to ensure the protection and the security of the civil population in Darfur.

Similarly, the EU, in line with its declared commitment to a democratic, peaceful and prosperous Sudan, will focus on the challenge of keeping the implementation of the CPA on track, providing its support for the parties participating in the GNU to work together in good faith and in keeping with the objectives of the CPA.

Uganda

The monitoring of the February elections and the political situation in the aftermath of the elections will be a priority for the EU. Efforts to explore ways to find a peaceful settlement to the conflict in Northern Uganda will continue.

8.9. Latin America and Caribbean

The relations between the EU, LA and the Caribbean will reach a new level by the time of IV EU-LAC Summit on 12 May in Vienna, followed on 13 May by summits with MERCOSUR, the Andean Community, Central America, Cariforum as well as with Mexico and Chile. On 11 May Ministers of Foreign Affairs will discuss subjects where both sides could promote progress in global and bi-regional affairs.

The EU-LAC Heads of State and Government will discuss the following items:

1. Democracy and human rights
2. Strengthening the multilateral approach to fostering peace, stability and respect for international law
3. Terrorism
4. Drugs and organised crime
5. Environment (including disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness)
6. Energy
7. Association agreements; regional integration; trade; connectivity (investment, infrastructure, information society)
8. Growth and employment
9. The fight against poverty, inequality and exclusion
10. Development co-operation and international financing for development
11. Migration
12. Knowledge sharing and human capacity building : Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology, Culture¹⁴¹

The Summit will be prepared at a number of meetings on particular areas, including at ministerial level.

¹⁴¹ AMLAT MD 139/05

Mercosur

The EU will cooperate closely with Mercosur in promoting our common values and interests through bilateral activities, as well as in the framework of international organisations. The EU is committed to finalising negotiations on a balanced and ambitious EU-Mercosur Association Agreement as soon as possible. The EU will maintain its assistance to the deepening of regional integration.

Central America

The Summit meeting on 13 May might decide on the opening of a process of negotiations on an Association Agreement between the European Union and Central America, including a Free Trade Area. The EU will follow closely the developments in Central America, and support the strengthening of regional integration and democracy in Central America.

Caribbean

The EU will continue its support for regional integration and will pay special attention to the needs of the Caribbean countries in framework of the Cotonou Agreement. The EU is committed to long-term assistance to Haiti in order to build strong democratic institutions, social and economic stability and an inclusive governance system.

Peru

Contacts with Peru will be intensified in 2006 since Peru will take over the Presidency of the Latin American and Caribbean countries and host the V EU-LAC Summit in 2008.

Bolivia

To be able to react in the short and medium term to possible new challenges in the country, the EU will be guided by an Action Plan on Bolivia approved by PSC on 13 May 2005.¹⁴²

It particularly provides for

- Strengthening of positive and coherent political engagement in dialogue with all stakeholders
- Involvement of regional players in stabilising Bolivia

¹⁴² CFSP/PRES/LUX/0890/05

- Promotion of the urgent establishment of a forum for political dialogue with and expression of international support for Bolivia
- Continuation and stepping up of positive engagement with the Government of Bolivia
- Support for civil society
- Strengthening of social cohesion and of indigenous peoples' rights.

In this context, the EU will keep in close contact with the newly elected Government, regional players, the OAS and the Club of Madrid.

Colombia

At this stage, the EU and its Member States will focus additional assistance on the Colombian government and civil society, notably on providing support for communities affected by the internal conflict, victims groups, local reconciliation activities, and the reinsertion and demobilisation of child soldiers, thereby complementing existing programmes developed by UNICEF and others.

Mexico

In 2006 reinforced political consultations will be held in the way agreed, for re-assessment towards the end of the year.

Cuba

The EU will continue to re-evaluate its Common Position and reinforce its efforts to achieve all of its objectives.

8.10. Transatlantic Relations

In preparing the EU-US Summit in Austria in June, the Union will continue its pro-active approach, speak with one voice and aim for concrete results. The transatlantic agenda is increasingly driven by the will and the need to work together on solving issues around the world. The Union will therefore cooperate with the US on regional affairs such as the MEPP and the Balkans and on global affairs such as UN reform and energy security.

On bilateral issues, the Union will strive to implement the Economic Initiative and will press the US for clear and comprehensive roadmaps to enable EU Member States currently outside the Visa Waiver Programme to achieve visa waiver status.

With Canada, the challenge is to translate agreement into action. As with the US, we have to work together to address issues around the world. Crisis management is an area for increasing and intensifying cooperation. Canada is an important partner in effective multilateralism. We will try to move forward on those issues at the Summit under the Finnish Presidency. On bilateral issues, work on the Trade and Investment Enhancement Agreement can hopefully be concluded. The EU will press Canada for clear and comprehensive roadmaps to enable EU Member States currently outside the Visa Waiver Programme to achieve visa waiver status.

9. COOPERATION WITH THIRD COUNTRIES ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING

The EU recognises that illegal migration resulting from human trafficking is a phenomenon which undermines the rule of international law as well as the rights of the individuals caught in such networks. It constitutes a security threat both to the EU as well as to the third countries involved. In this regard, EU action will focus upon the measures envisaged in *A Strategy for the External Dimension of JHA: Global Freedom, Security and Justice* adopted by the GAERC of 12 December 2005 and through *The Global Approach to Migration: Priority Actions for Africa and the Mediterranean* adopted by the European Council of 15-16 December 2005.

10. MULTILATERAL AND GLOBAL QUESTIONS

10.1. United Nations

Priority will be given to full implementation of the outcome of the 2005 World Summit. The EU will fully implement its commitment in the field of development. The EU will contribute to an early and successful start to the work of the Peace Building Commission and of the Human Rights Council.

It will actively participate in the debate on the reform of the development architecture of the UN and system-wide coherence. It will continue to promote the management reform of the UN Secretariat. The EU will follow closely the proceedings and outcome of the United Nations High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development to be held in September 2006. It will build common positions on budgetary matters. The EU will also extend and deepen its outreach activities with third countries on UN matters. The EU will play an active part in the next United Nations General Assembly and will define in due course its priorities, to be reflected in a joint Priorities Paper. The EU will coordinate its positions in the various organs and bodies of the United Nations. The EU will continue and wherever possible increase and improve its cooperation with the UN in crisis management, in line with the Joint Declaration on UN-EU Cooperation in Crisis Management of 24 September 2003.

10.2. International Criminal Court

The EU intends to pursue and increase its support for ICC activity. Particular emphasis will be placed on advancing the principles of the universality and integrity of the Rome Statute. The EU will continue to implement the revised EU Action Plan on the ICC. The EU also intends to participate actively in the fifth Assembly of the States Parties in 2006. A further priority will be the conclusion and subsequent implementation of the agreement on cooperation and assistance between the EU and the ICC.

10.3 Other multilateral fora

The EU will continue to pursue its cooperation and coordination with other relevant international and regional organisations such as NATO, OSCE or the African Union and ASEAN.

ACTES JURIDIQUES PESC 2005

DATE	OBJET	REFERENCE AMOUNT	BASE JURIDIQUE	RÉFÉRENCE J.O.
	AFGHANISTAN			
28.07.2005	Prorogation du mandat de M. Francesco VENDRELL comme représentant spécial	620.000,00 €	art. 14, art. 18 § 5, art. 23 § 2	2005/585/PESC L 199 (29.07.2005)
02.02.2005	Prorogation du mandat de M. Francesco VENDRELL comme représentant spécial	635.000,00 €	art. 14, art. 18 § 5, art. 23 § 2	2005/95/PESC L 31 (04.02.2005)
	AFRIQUE			
12.04.2005	Prévention, gestion et règlement des conflits; abrogation de la position commune 2004/85/PESC		art. 15	2005/304/PESC L 97 (15.04.2005)
	ANGOLA			
31.01.2005	Abrogation de la position commune 2002/495/PESC		art. 15	2005/82/PESC L 219 (02.02.2005)
	ASIE CENTRALE			
28.07.2005	Nomination de M. Ján KUBIŠ comme représentant spécial	470.000,00 €	art. 14, art. 18 § 5, art. 23 § 2	2005/588/PESC L 199 (29.07.2005)
	BALKANS OCCIDENTAUX			
21.12.2005	Implémentation de la Position commune 2004/694/PESC et renouvellement des mesures définies à l'appui d'une mise en œuvre effective du mandat du Tribunal pénal international pour l'ex-Yougoslavie (TPIY)		art. 2, art. 23 § 2	2005/927/PESC L 337 (22.12.2005)
24.11.2005	Mise en place d'une équipe consultative de l'UE chargée des questions de police (EUPAT) dans ARYM	1.500.000,00 €	art. 14, art. 25 al. 3, art. 26 et art. 28 § 3	2005/826/PESC L 307 (25.11.2005)
24.11.2005	Modification du mandat de Lord ASHDOWN comme Représentant spécial en Bosnie-Herzégovine	160.000,00 €	art. 14, art. 18 § 5, art. 23 § 2	2005/825/PESC L 307 (25.11.2005) RECTIFICATIF : L 349 (31.12.2005)
24.11.2005	Mission de police de l'Union européenne (MPUE) en Bosnie-et-Herzégovine	3.000.000,00 € p.m. 9.000.000,00 € (2006)	art. 14, art. 25 al. 3	2005/824/PESC L 307 (25.11.2005)
21.11.2005	Prorogation du mandat du chef de la Mission de surveillance de l'Union européenne (EUMM)		art. 23 § 2	2005/808/PESC L 303 (22.11.2005)
21.11.2005	Prorogation et modification du mandat de la Mission de surveillance de l'Union européenne (EUMM)	2.000.000,00 € p.m. 1.723.982,80 € (2006)	art. 14	2005/807/PESC L 303 (22.11.2005)
17.10.2005	Nomination M. Erwan Fouéré comme Représentant spécial dans l'ancienne République yougoslave de Macédoine et abrogeant l'action commune 2005/589/PESC	215.000,00 €	art. 14, art. 18 § 5, art. 23 § 2	2005/724/PESC L 272 (18.10.2005)
06.10.2005	Prorogation de la position commune 2004/694/PESC concernant de nouvelles mesures définies à l'appui d'une mise en œuvre effective du mandat du Tribunal pénal international pour l'ex-Yougoslavie (TPIY)		art. 15	2005/689/PESC L 261 (07.10.2005)
28.07.2005	Prorogation du mandat de Lord ASHDOWN comme Représentant spécial en Bosnie-Herzégovine	270.000,00 €	art. 14, art. 18 § 5, art. 23 § 2	2005/583/PESC L 199 (29.07.2005)

DATE	OBJET	REFERENCE AMOUNT	BASE JURIDIQUE	RÉFÉRENCE J.O.
28.07.2005	Prorogation du mandat de M. Michael SAHLIN comme Représentant spécial dans l'ARYM	195.000,00 €	art. 14, art. 18 § 5, art.23 § 2	2005/589/PESC L 199 (29.07.2005)
06.06.2005	Renouvellement des mesures définies à l'appui d'une mise en œuvre effective du mandat du TPIY		art. 2, art. 23 § 2	2005/426/PESC L 144 (08.06.2005)
18.04.2005	Renouvellement des mesures définies à l'appui d'une mise en œuvre effective du mandat du TPIY		art. 2, art. 23 § 2	2005/316/PESC L 100 (20.04.2005)
16.03.2005	Renouvellement des mesures définies à l'appui d'une mise en œuvre effective du mandat du TPIY		art. 15	2005/227/PESC L 71 (17.03.2005)
21.02.2005	Renouvellement des mesures définies à l'appui d'une mise en œuvre effective du mandat du TPIY		art. 2, art. 23 § 2	2005/148/PESC L 49 (22.02.2005)
02.02.2005	Prorogation du mandat de M. Michael SAHLIN comme Représentant spécial dans l'ARYM	500.000,00 €	art. 14, art. 18 § 5, art. 23 § 2	2005/98/PESC L 31 (04.02.2005)
02.02.2005	Prorogation du mandat de Lord ASHDOWN comme Représentant spécial en Bosnie-Herzégovine	0,00 €	art. 14, art. 18 § 5, art.23 § 2	2005/97/PESC L 31 (04.02.2005)
31.01.2005	Prorogation et modification mesures restrictives à l'égard d'extrémistes dans l'ARYM		art. 15	2005/80/PESC L 29 (02.02.2005)
	BIELORUSSIE			
20.09.2005	Prorogation de la Position Commune 2004/661/PESC		art. 15	2005/666/PESC L 247 (23.09.2005)
	BIRMANIE			
28.04.2005	Mesures restrictives, modification Position Commune 2004/423/PESC		art. 15	2005/340/PESC L 108 (29.04.2005)
21.02.2005	Mesures restrictives, modification Position Commune 2004/423/PESC		art. 15	2005/149/PESC L 49 (22.02.2005)
	CAUCASE DU SUD			
28.07.2005	Modification et prorogation du mandat de M. Heikki TALVITIE comme Représentant spécial	1.930.000,00 €	art. 14, art. 18 § 5, art. 23 § 2	2005/582/PESC L 199 (29.07.2005)
18.07.2005	Nouvelle contribution de l'Union européenne au processus de règlement du conflit en Géorgie/Ossétie du Sud	133.000,00 €	art. 14	2005/561/PESC L 189 (21.07.2005)
26.04.2005	Mise en œuvre du mandat du représentant spécial de l'UE	0,00 €	art. 14, art. 18 § 5, art. 23 § 2	2005/330/PESC L 106 (27.04.2005)
02.02.2005	Prorogation M. Heikki TALVITIE comme représentant spécial	370.000,00 €	art. 14, art. 18 § 5, art. 23 § 2	2005/100/PESC L 31 (04.02.2005)
	EUROPE DU SUD-EST			
12.12.2005	Désignation du coordinateur spécial du pacte de stabilité		Règl. (CE) 1080/2000. Pacte de Stabilité art. 1 bis	2005/912/CE L 331 (17.12.2005)
	INDONÉSIE			
03.10.2005	Echange de lettres entre l'Union européenne et le gouvernement indonésien relatif aux tâches, au statut et aux privilèges et immunités de la mission de surveillance de l'Union européenne à Aceh (Indonésie) (mission de surveillance à Aceh-MSA) et de son personnel		art. 24	2005/765/PESC L 288 (29.10.2005)
09.09.2005	Mission de surveillance de l'Union européenne à Aceh (Indonésie) (mission de surveillance à Aceh - MSA)	9.000.000,00 €	art. 14, et art. 25 3ème alinéa	2005/643/PESC L 234 (10.9.2005)

DATE	OBJET	REFERENCE AMOUNT	BASE JURIDIQUE	RÉFÉRENCE J.O.
	LUTTE CONTRE LE TERRORISME			
21.12.2005	Mise à jour l'article 2, paragraphe 3, du règlement (CE) n° 2580/2001 concernant l'adoption de mesures restrictives spécifiques à l'encontre de certaines personnes et entités dans le cadre de la lutte contre le terrorisme, et abrogeant la décision 2005/848/CE		règl. CE 2580/2001, art. 2 § 3	2005/930/CE L 340 (23.12.2005)
21.12.2005	Mise à jour de la position commune 2001/931/PESC et abrogation de la position commune 2005/847/PESC		art. 15 et 34	2005/936/PESC L 340 (23.12.2005)
29.11.2005	Mise à jour l'article 2, paragraphe 3, du règlement (CE) n° 2580/2001 concernant l'adoption de mesures restrictives spécifiques à l'encontre de certaines personnes et entités dans le cadre de la lutte contre le terrorisme, et abrogeant la décision 2005/722/CE		règl. CE 2580/2001, art. 2 § 3	2005/848/CE L 314 (30.11.2005)
29.11.2005	Mise à jour de la position commune 2001/931/PESC et abrogation de la position commune 2005/725/PESC		art. 15 et 34	2005/847/PESC L 314 (30.11.2005)
17.10.2005	Mise à jour l'article 2, paragraphe 3, du règlement (CE) n° 2580/2001 concernant l'adoption de mesures restrictives spécifiques à l'encontre de certaines personnes et entités dans le cadre de la lutte contre le terrorisme, et abrogeant la décision 2005/428/PESC		règl. CE 2580/2001, art. 2 § 3	2005/722/CE L 272 (18.10.2005)
17.10.2005	Mise à jour de la position commune 2001/931/PESC et abrogation de la position commune 2005/427/PESC		art. 15 et 34	2005/725/PESC L 272 (18.10.2005)
06.06.2005	Mesures restrictives spécifiques à l'encontre de certaines personnes et entités dans le cadre de la lutte contre le terrorisme, et abrogation de la décision 2005/221/PESC		règl. CE 2580/2001, art. 2 § 3	2005/428/PESC L 144 (08.06.2005)
06.06.2005	Mise à jour de la position commune 2001/931/PESC et abrogation de la position commune 2005/220/PESC		art. 15 et 34	2005/427/PESC L 144 (08.06.2005)
14.03.2005	Mesures restrictives spécifiques à l'encontre de certaines personnes et entités dans le cadre de la lutte contre le terrorisme, et abrogation de la décision 2004/306/CE		règl. CE 2580/2001, art. 2 § 3	2005/221/PESC L 69 (16.03.2005)
14.03.2005	Mise à jour de la position commune 2001/931/PESC et abrogation de la position commune 2004/500/PESC		art. 15 et 34	2005/220/PESC L 69 (16.03.2005)
	MOLDAVIE			
12.12.2005	Mesures restrictives à l'encontre des dirigeants de la région de Transnistrie		art. 2 § 1, art. 23 § 2	2005/890/PESC L 327 (14.12.2005)
07.11.2005	Modification du mandat de M. Adriaan JACOBVITS de SZEGED comme Représentant spécial de l'UE	430.000,00 €	art. 14, art. 18 § 5, art. 23 § 2	2005/776/PESC L 292 (08.11.2005)
28.07.2005	Prorogation du mandat de M. Adriaan JACOBVITS de SZEGED comme Représentant spécial de l'UE	300.000,00 €	art. 14, art. 18 § 5, art. 23 § 2	2005/584/PESC L 199 (29.07.2005)
23.03.2005	Nomination de M. JACOBVITS de SZEGED comme Représentant spécial de l'UE	278.000,00 €	art. 14, art. 18 § 5, art. 23 § 2	2005/265/PESC L 81 (30.03.2005)
21.02.2005	Prorogation et modification de la position commune 2004/179/PESC		art. 15	2005/147/PESC L 49 (22.02.2005)
	NIGERIA			
31.01.2005	Abrogation de la position commune 2002/401/PESC		art. 15	2005/82/PESC L 29 (02.02.2005)

DATE	OBJET	REFERENCE AMOUNT	BASE JURIDIQUE	RÉFÉRENCE J.O.
	NON-PROLIFERATION			
12.12.2005	Soutenant les activités de l'OIIAC dans le cadre de la mise en œuvre de la stratégie de l'Union européenne contre la prolifération des armes de destruction massive	p.m. 1.670.000,00 € (2006)	art. 14	2005/913/PESC L 331 (12.12.2005)
29.11.2005	Contribution de l'UE à la destruction des armes légères et de petit calibre (ALPC) et de leurs munitions en Ukraine	p.m. 1.000.000,00 € (2006)	art. 4, art. 23 § 2	2005/852/PESC L 315 (01.12.2005)
07.11.2005	Prorogation et modification de la Décision 1999/730/PESC en vue d'une contribution de l'UE à la lutte contre l'accumulation et la diffusion déstabilisatrices des armes légères et de petit calibre au Cambodge	600.000,00 €	art. 23 § 2; 'action commune 2002/589/PESC art. 6	2005/784/PESC L 295 (11.11.2005)
18.07.2005	Soutien aux activités de l'AIEA dans les domaines de la sécurité et de la vérification nucléaires et dans le cadre de la mise en œuvre de la stratégie de l'Union européenne contre la prolifération des armes de destruction massive	3.914.000,00 €	art. 14	2005/574/PESC L 193 (23.07.2005)
25.04.2005	Conférence d'examen de l'an 2005 des parties du traité sur la non-prolifération des armes nucléaires		art. 15	2005/329/PESC L 106 (27.04.2005)
	OUZBÉKISTAN			
14.11.2005	Mesures restrictives à l'encontre de l'Ouzbékistan		art. 15	2005/792/PESC L 299 (16.11.2005)
	PESD			
07.12.2005	Nomination du chef de l'équipe consultative de l'UE chargée des questions de police (EUPAT) dans l'ancienne République yougoslave de Macédoine (ARYM)		art. 25 §3; action commune 2005/826/PESC, art. 7 §2	2005/957/PESC EUPAT/1/2005 L 346 (29.12.2005)
01.12.2005	Modifiant l'action commune 2005/355/PESC relative à la mission de conseil et d'assistance de l'Union européenne en matière de réforme du secteur de la sécurité en République démocratique du Congo (RDC) en ce qui concerne la mise en place d'un projet d'assistance technique relatif à l'amélioration de la chaîne de paiement du ministère de la défense en RDC (mission EUSEC RD Congo)	p.m. 900.000,00 € (until 15.02.2006) p.m. 940.000,00 € (from 16.02.2006 until 02.05.2006)	art. 14, art. 25 § 3, art. 28 (3)	2005/868/PESC L 318 (06.12.2005)
29.11.2005	Nomination du chef de mission/commissaire de police de la mission de police de l'Union européenne pour les territoires palestiniens (EUPOL COPPS)		art. 25 al. 3	2005/836/PESC EUPOL COPPS/1/2005 L 312 (29.11.2005)
25.11.2005	Mission de l'Union européenne d'assistance à la frontière au point de passage de Rafah (EU BAM Rafah)	1.696.659,00 € p.m. 5.903.341,00 € (2006)	art. 14, art. 25 al. 3	2005/889/PESC L 327 (14.12.2005) RECTIFICATIF: OJ L 5 (10.01.2006)
25.11.2005	Nomination du chef de mission/commissaire de police de la Mission de police de l'Union européenne (MPUE) en Bosnie-et-Herzégovine		art. 25 §3; action commune 2005/824/PESC, art. 9 §1	2005/922/PESC MPUE/1/2005 L 335 (21.12.2005)
24.11.2005	Mise en place d'une équipe consultative de l'UE chargée des questions de police (EUPAT) dans ARYM	1.500.000,00 €	art. 14, art. 25 al. 3, art. 26 et art. 28 § 3	2005/826/PESC L 307 (25.11.2005)
24.11.2005	Mission de police de l'Union européenne (MPUE) en Bosnie-et-Herzégovine	3.000.000,00 € p.m. 9.000.000,00 € (2006)	art. 14, art. 25 al. 3	2005/824/PESC L 307 (25.11.2005)

DATE	OBJET	REFERENCE AMOUNT	BASE JURIDIQUE	RÉFÉRENCE J.O.
22.11.2005	Prorogation du mandat du chef de la mission de police de l'UE à Kinshasa (RDC), EUPOL KINSHASA		art. 25 § 3; action commune 2004/847/PESC, art. 5 et art. 8	2005/921/PESC EUPOL KINSHASA/2/2005 L 335 (21.12.2005)
21.11.2005	Accord entre l'UE et le Canada établissant un cadre pour la participation du Canada aux opérations de gestion de crises menées par l'UE		art. 24	2005/851/PESC L 315 (01.12.2005)
21.11.2005	Modification et prorogation de l'action commune 2004/847/PESC relative à la mission de police de l'Union européenne à Kinshasa (RDC) en ce qui concerne l'unité de police intégrée (EUPOL Kinshasa)	4.370.000,00 € (from 09 DEC 2004 until 30 APR 2006)	art. 14, art. 25 al. 3	2005/822/PESC L 305 (24.11.2005)
21.11.2005	Modification de la décision 2004/658/PESC portant dispositions financières applicables au budget général de l'Agence européenne de défense (AED)		art. 18 § 1	2005/821/PESC L 305 (24.11.2005)
21.11.2005	Prorogation du mandat du chef de la Mission de surveillance de l'Union européenne (EUMM)		art. 23 § 2	2005/808/PESC L 303 (22.11.2005)
21.11.2005	Prorogation et modification du mandat de la Mission de surveillance de l'Union européenne (EUMM)	2.000.000,00 € p.m. 1.723.982,80 € (2006)	art. 14	2005/807/PESC L 303 (22.11.2005)
21.11.2005	Mise en œuvre l'action commune 2005/557/PESC concernant l'action de soutien civilo-militaire de l'Union européenne à la mission de l'Union africaine dans la région soudanaise du Darfour	p.m. 2.200.000,00 € (from 29 JAN until 28 JUL 2006)	art. 23(2)	2005/806/PESC L 303 (22.11.2005)
16.11.2005	Nomination du chef de mission/commissaire de police de la mission de police de l'Union européenne pour les territoires palestiniens (EUPOL COPPS)		art. 25 3ème alinéa; action commune 2005/797/PESC, art. 11 (2)	2005/836/PESC EUPOL COPPS/1/2005 L 312 (29.11.2005)
15.11.2005	Etablissement du Comité des contributeurs pour la mission de surveillance de l'Union européenne à Aceh (Indonésie) (mission de surveillance à Aceh-MSA)		art. 25 3ème alinéa; action commune 2005/643/PESC, art. 10 § 3	2005/860/CE ACEH/1/2005 L 317 (03.12.2005)
14.11.2005	Conclusion d'un accord entre l'Union européenne et la Confédération suisse relatif à la participation de la Confédération suisse à la mission de surveillance de l'Union européenne à Aceh (Indonésie) (Mission de surveillance à Aceh — MSA)		art. 24,	2005/966/PESC L 349 (31.12.2005)
14.11.2005	Mission de police de l'UE pour les territoires palestiniens (EUPOL COPPS)	2.500.000,00 € p.m. 3.600.000,00 € (2006)	art. 14, art. 25 al. 3	2005/797/PESC L 300 (17.11.2005)
03.10.2005	Echange de lettres entre l'Union européenne et le gouvernement indonésien relatif aux tâches, au statut et aux privilèges et immunités de la mission de surveillance de l'Union européenne à Aceh (Indonésie) (mission de surveillance à Aceh-MSA) et de son personnel		art. 24	2005/765/PESC L 288 (29.10.2005)
20.09.2005	Nomination du chef de l'élément de commandement de l'Union européenne à Naples, dans le cadre de l'opération militaire de l'Union européenne en Bosnie-et-Herzégovine		art. 25 § 3; action commune 2004/570/PESC art. 6	2005/714/PESC BiH/7/2005 L 271 (15.10.2005)
09.09.2005	Mission de surveillance de l'UE à Aceh (Indonésie) (mission de surveillance à Aceh - MSA)	9.000.000,00 €	art. 14 § 3, art. 25	2005/643/PESC L 234 (10.09.2005)

DATE	OBJET	REFERENCE AMOUNT	BASE JURIDIQUE	RÉFÉRENCE J.O.
12.08.2005	Conclusion de l'accord entre l'Union européenne et la République démocratique du Congo relatif au statut et aux activités de la mission de police de l'Union européenne en République démocratique du Congo (EUPOL Kinshasa)		art. 24	2005/680/PESC L 256 (01.10.2005)
29.07.2005	Nomination d'un conseiller militaire du Représentant spécial de l'Union européenne pour le Soudan		art. 25 § 3; action commune 2005/557/PESC art. 4	2005/653/PESC DARFUR/2/2005 L 241 (17.09.2005)
29.07.2005	Nomination d'un chef de l'équipe de police de l'UE/conseiller du Représentant spécial de l'Union européenne en matière de police pour le Soudan		art. 25 § 3; action commune 2005/557/PESC art. 4	2005/654/PESC DARFUR/1/2005 L 241 (17.09.2005)
18.07.2005	Etablissement du Collège européen de sécurité et de défense (CESD)		art. 14	2005/575/PESC L 194 (26.07.2005)
18.07.2005	Participation de du Chili à l'opération militaire de gestion de crise menée par l'UE en Bosnie-Herzégovine (opération ALTHEA)		art. 24	2005/593/PESC L 202 (03.08.2005)
14.06.2005	Nomination du commandant de la force de l'UE pour l'opération militaire de l'UE en BiH		art. 25 § 3; action commune 2004/570/PESC art. 6	2005/483/PESC BiH/6/2005 L 173 (06.07.2005)
13.06.2005	Accord entre l'UE et l'Ukraine établissant un cadre pour la participation de l'Ukraine aux opérations de gestion de crises menées par l'UE		art. 24	2005/495/PESC L 182 (13.07.2005)
10.05.2005	Modification décision 2001/80/PESC instituant l'Etat-major de l'UE		art. 28 § 1	2005/395/PESC L 132 (26.05.2005)
02.05.2005	Mission de conseil et d'assistance de l'UE en matière de réforme du secteur de la sécurité en RDC (mission EUSEC RD Congo)	1.600.000,00 €	art. 14, art. 25, art. 26, art. 28 § 3	2005/355/PESC L 112 (03.05.2005)
14.03.2005	Participation de l'Argentine à l'opération militaire de gestion de crise menée par l'UE en Bosnie-Herzégovine (opération ALTHEA)		art. 24	2005/447/PESC L 156 (18.06.2005)
14.03.2005	Participation de la Nouvelle-Zélande à l'opération militaire de gestion de crise menée par l'UE en Bosnie-Herzégovine (opération ALTHEA)		art. 24	2005/386/PESC L 127 (20.05.2005)
08.03.2005	Nomination chef de mission Etat de Droit pour l'Iraq, EUJUST LEX		art. 25 3ème alinéa; action commune 2005/190/PESC, art. 9 § 1	2005/232/PESC LEX/1/2005 L 72 (18.03.2005)
07.03.2005	Mission intégrée État de droit de l'Union européenne pour l'Iraq, EUJUST LEX	10.000.000,00 €	art. 14, art. 25 § 3, art. 25, 26 et 28 (3)	2005/190/PESC L 62 (09.03.2005)
04.03.2005	Etablissement du comité des contributeurs pour la Mission de police de l'UE (EUPOL Proxima) dans l'ARYM		art. 25 §3; action commune 2004/789/PESC art. 9 §7	2005/230/CE PROXIMA/3/2005 L 72 (18.03.2005)
04.03.2005	Etablissement du comité des contributeurs pour la Mission de police de l'UE (MPUE) en Bosnie-et-Herzégovine		art. 25 3ème alinéa; action commune 2005/210/PESC, art. 8 § 4	2005/229/CE MPUE/1/2005 L 72 (18.03.2005)
17.02.2005	MPUE: modification de l'action commune 2002/210/PESC		art. 14, art. 25 § 3	2005/143/PESC L 48 (19.02.2005)
17.02.2005	Modification de l'action commune 2004/789/PESC, Mission de Police de l'UE dans l'ARYM (EUPOL Proxima)		art. 14, art. 25 § 3	2005/142/PESC L 48 (19.02.2005)

DATE	OBJET	REFERENCE AMOUNT	BASE JURIDIQUE	RÉFÉRENCE J.O.
31.01.2005	Participation de l'Albanie à l'opération militaire de gestion de crise menée par l'UE en Bosnie-Herzégovine (opération ALTHEA)		art. 24	2005/199/PESC L 65 (11.03.2005)
31.01.2005	Prorogation du mandat du chef/commissaire de police de la Mission de police de l'Union européenne (MPUE) en Bosnie-et-Herzégovine		art. 23 § 2	2005/81/PESC L 29 (02.02.2005)
24.01.2005	Modification décision 2004/197/PESC créant un mécanisme de gestion du financement des coûts communs des opérations de l'UE ayant des implications militaires ou dans le domaine de la défense (ATHENA)		art. 13 § 3, art. 28 § 3	2005/68/CE L 27 (29.01.2005)
24.01.2005	Participation du Maroc à l'opération militaire de gestion de crise menée par l'UE en Bosnie-Herzégovine (opération ALTHEA)		art. 24	2005/109/PESC L 34 (08.02.2005)
	PRÉVENTION ET RÈGLEMENT DES CONFLITS			
12.04.2005	Prévention, gestion et règlement des conflits en Afrique		art. 15	2005/304/PESC L 97 (15.04.2005)
	PROCESSUS DE PAIX AU MOYEN-ORIENT			
12.12.2005	Mesures restrictives spécifiques à l'encontre de certaines personnes soupçonnées d'être impliquées dans l'assassinat de l'ancien premier ministre libanais M. Rafic Hariri (Syrie)		art. 15	2005/888/PESC L 327 (14.12.2005)
29.11.2005	Nomination du chef de mission/commissaire de police de la mission de police de l'Union européenne pour les territoires palestiniens (EUPOL COPPS)		art. 25 al. 3	2005/836/PESC EUPOL COPPS/1/2005 L 312 (29.11.2005)
25.11.2005	Mission de l'Union européenne d'assistance à la frontière au point de passage de Rafah (EU BAM Rafah)	1.696.659,00 € p.m. 5.903.341,00 € (2006)	art. 14, art. 25 al. 3	2005/889/PESC L 327 (14.12.2005) RECTIFICATIF: OJ L 5 (10.01.2006)
14.11.2005	Mission de police de l'UE pour les territoires palestiniens (EUPOL COPPS)	2.500.000,00 € p.m. 3.600.000,00 € (2006)	art. 14, art. 25 al. 3	2005/797/PESC L 300 (17.11.2005)
14.11.2005	Modification du mandat de M. Marc OTTE comme représentant spécial de l'UE		art. 14, art. 18 § 5, art. 23 § 2	2005/796/PESC L 300 (17.11.2005)
14.11.2005	Accueil temporaire de certains Palestiniens par des États membres de l'UE		art. 15	2005/793/PESC L 299 (16.11.2005)
28.07.2005	Prorogation du mandat de M. Marc OTTE comme représentant spécial de l'UE	560.000,00 €	art. 14, art. 18 § 5, art. 23 § 2	2005/587/PESC L 199 (29.07.2005)
02.02.2005	Prorogation du mandat de M. Marc OTTE comme représentant spécial de l'UE	560.000,00 €	art. 14, art. 18 § 5, art. 23 § 2	2005/99/PESC L 31 (04.02.2005)
	RÉGION DES GRANDS LACS AFRICAINS			
29.11.2005	Mesures restrictives à l'encontre de la République démocratique du Congo		art. 6, art. 23 § 2	2005/846/PESC L 314 (30.11.2005)
28.07.2005	Prorogation du mandat de M. Aldo AJELLO comme représentant spécial	460.000,00 €	art. 14, art. 18 § 5, art. 23 § 2	2005/586/PESC L 199 (29.07.2005)
18.07.2005	Mesures restrictives spécifiques à l'encontre des personnes agissant en violation de l'embargo sur les armes imposé à la République démocratique du Congo		art. 60, 301 et 308	2005/1183/CE L 193 (23.07.2005)
13.06.2005	Mesures restrictives à l'encontre de la RDC et abrogation position commune 2002/829/PESC		art. 15	2005/440/PESC L 152 (15.06.2005)

DATE	OBJET	REFERENCE AMOUNT	BASE JURIDIQUE	RÉFÉRENCE J.O.
02.05.2005	Mission de conseil et d'assistance de l'UE en matière de réforme du secteur de la sécurité en RDC (mission EUSEC RD Congo)	1.600.000,00 €	art. 14, art. 25, art. 26, art. 28 § 3	2005/355/PESC L 112 (03.05.2005)
02.02.2005	Prorogation du mandat de M. Aldo AJELLO comme représentant spécial	440.000,00 €	art. 14, art. 18 § 5, art. 23 § 2	2005/96/PESC L 31 (04.02.2005)
31.01.2005	Abrogation de la position commune 2003/319/PESC		art. 15	2005/82/PESC L 29 (02.02.2005)
31.01.2005	Abrogation de la position commune 2002/830/PESC		art. 15	2005/82/PESC L 29 (02.02.2005)
	SECURITE			
20.12.2005	Modification de la décision 2001/264/CE adoptant le règlement de sécurité du Conseil		art. 207 §3; Déc. 2004/338/CE art. 24	2005/952/CE L 346 (29.12.2005)
13.06.2005	Conclusion de l'accord entre l'UE et l'Ukraine sur les procédures de sécurité pour l'échange d'informations classifiées		art. 24, art. 38	2005/481/PESC L 172 (13.06.2005)
14.04.2005	Conclusion de l'accord entre l'UE et la Bulgarie sur les procédures de sécurité pour l'échange d'informations classifiées		art. 24, art. 38	2005/365/PESC L 118 (05.05.2005)
12.04.2005	Conclusion de l'accord entre l'UE et la Roumanie sur les procédures de sécurité pour l'échange d'informations classifiées		art. 24, art. 38	2005/364/PESC L 118 (05.05.2005)
24.01.2005	Conclusion de l'accord entre l'UE et l'ARYM sur les procédures de sécurité pour l'échange d'informations classifiées		art. 24, art. 38	2005/296/PESC, JAI L 94 (13.04.2005)

DATE	OBJET	REFERENCE AMOUNT	BASE JURIDIQUE	RÉFÉRENCE J.O.
	SOUDAN			
21.11.2005	Mise en œuvre l'action commune 2005/557/PESC concernant l'action de soutien civilo-militaire de l'Union européenne à la mission de l'Union africaine dans la région soudanaise du Darfour	p.m. 2.200.000,00 € (from 29 JAN until 28 JUL 2006)	art. 23(2)	2005/806/PESC L 303 (22.11.2005)
21.11.2005	Mise en œuvre l'action commune 2005/556/PESC du Conseil portant nomination du représentant spécial de l'Union européenne pour le Soudan		art. 14, art. 18 § 5, art. 23(2)	2005/805/PESC L 303 (22.11.2005)
29.07.2005	Décision du COPS relative à la nomination d'un chef de l'équipe de police de l'Union européenne/conseiller du représentant spécial de l'Union européenne en matière de police pour le Soudan		art. 25	2005/654/PESC DARFUR/2/2005 L 241 (17.09.2005)
29.07.2005	Décision du COPS relative à la nomination d'un conseiller militaire du représentant spécial de l'Union européenne pour le Soudan		art. 25	2005/653/PESC DARFUR/1/2005 L 241 (17.09.2005)
18.07.2005	Mesures restrictives spécifiques à l'encontre de certaines personnes qui font obstacle au proces-sus de paix et ne respectent pas le droit int. dans le conflit de la région du Darfour au Soudan		art. 60, 301 et 308	2005/1184/EC L 193 (23.07.2005)
18.07.2005	Action de soutien civilo-militaire de l'Union européenne à la mission de l'Union africaine dans la région soudanaise du Darfour	2.120.000,00 €	art. 14, art. 25 § 3, art. 26, art. 28(3)	2005/557/PESC L 188 (20.07.2005)
18.07.2005	Nomination de M. Pekka HAAVISTO comme représentant spécial	675.000,00 €	art. 14, 18(5) et 23(2)	2005/556/PESC L 188 (20.07.2005)
30.05.2005	Mesures restrictives et abrogation de la position commune 2004/31/PESC		art. 15	2005/411/PESC L 139 (02.06.2005)
	ZIMBABWE			
29.07.2005	Renouvellement des mesures restrictives		art. 23(2)	2005/592/PESC L 200 (30.07.2005)
13.06.2005	Actualisation annexe de la position commune 2004/161/PESC		art. 23 § 2	2005/444/PESC L 153 (16.06.2005)
21.02.2005	Prorogation de la position commune 2004/161/PESC		art. 15	2005/146/PESC L 49 (22.02.2005)