



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 23 January 2007

5585/07

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NOTE

from : Presidency

to : Civil Protection Working Party (CIP - composition)

No. Cion prop. : 16932/06 PROCIV 272 JAI 724 COTER 63 ENER 322 TRANS 344 TELECOM
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Subject : Communication from the Commission on a European Programme for Critical
Infrastructure Protection

Proposal for a Directive of the Council on the identification and designation of
European Critical Infrastructure and the assessment of the need to improve their
protection

= Presidency questionnaire

On 12 December 2006, the European Commission adopted the *Communication on a European Program for Critical Infrastructure Protection* and a *Proposal for a Directive of the Council on the identification and designation of European Critical Infrastructure and the assessment of the need to improve their protection*. On 19 December 2006, the Commission presented this EPCIP package in the Civil Protection Working Party.

The Presidency would like to start the discussion of both documents at the Civil Protection Working Party's (Critical Infrastructure Protection composition) meeting of 29 January 2007. The Presidency thinks that several main questions have to be clarified before the Commission's proposals can be discussed in detail. Delegations are therefore asked to give their opinions to the following questions at the meeting of 29 January 2007 (and of 5 February 2007).

Do Member States agree in principle to the European Commission's proposal:

1. to lay down a common European procedure for the sector-specific identification and designation of European Critical Infrastructures (ECI) and for the assessment of the need to improve their protection (nos. 2, 4 and 3 of the communication / Articles 1 to 4, 7 and Annex 1 of the proposed directive)?
2. to oblige operators of ECI to set up security plans and to designate security liaison officers (Annex of the communication / Articles 5, 6 and Annex 2 of the proposed directive)?
3. to lay down the aspects mentioned in questions nos 1 and 2 in a binding legal instrument (directive) (no. 2.4 of the communication)?
4. to set up a comitology committee for implementing details of EPCIP, as far as subject of a legal instrument, and to delegate decisions about further details of the questions referred to in nos. 1 and 2 to a regulatory procedure or an advisory procedure (Article 11 of proposed directive)?
5. to structure the implementation of EPCIP in an Action Plan that shall be regularly reviewed (no. 4.1 and Annex of the communication)?

6. to foresee the option that the Commission assists Member States (at their request) in protecting their national critical infrastructures (no. 5 of the communication)?
7. to take into account an external dimension of EPCIP (no. 7 of the Communication)?

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