



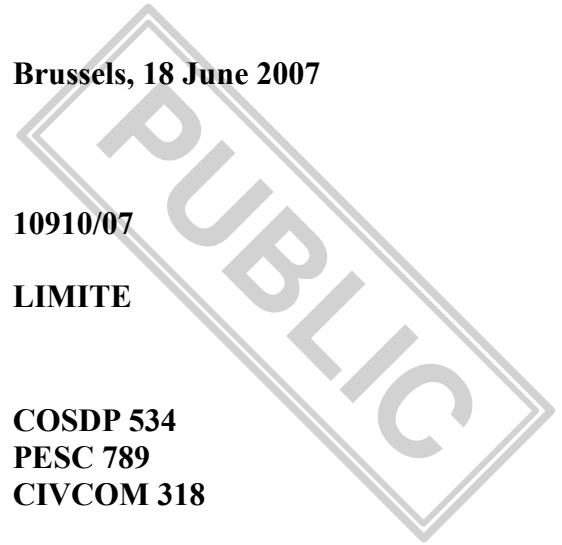
**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 18 June 2007

10910/07

LIMITE

**COSDP 534
PESC 789
CIVCOM 318**



NOTE

From : Council

To : European Council

Subject : Presidency Report on ESDP

Delegations will find attached the "Presidency Report on ESDP" as approved by Council on 18 June 2007.

ESDP Presidency Report June 2007

1. In line with the mandate defined by the European Council in December 2006, the Presidency hereby submits this report on ESDP.
2. In presenting this report, the Presidency has noted that Denmark has drawn attention to Protocol No 5 on the position of Denmark, which is annexed to the Amsterdam Treaty.

I. Operational Activities**Western Balkans****Operation ALTHEA**

3. The EU military operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Operation ALTHEA, continued with the operational focus on maintaining a safe and secure environment and on transferring Joint Military Affairs (JMA) tasks to relevant national authorities. Co-operation between EUFOR ALTHEA and EU partners in theatre, in particular EUPM and the EUSR continues to work well.
4. In line with Council's 11 December 2006 decision concerning on a transition of Operation ALTHEA, the Political and Security Committee (PSC), on 27 February 2007, approved a revised Operations Plan (OPLAN). The implementation of the first phase of the transition, (i.e. reconfiguration and reduction) of EUFOR, started on 28 February and was completed on 28 April, ahead of schedule.
5. The Council reviewed Operation ALTHEA on 18 June and welcomed the positive contribution of the operation to a safe and secure environment in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). The Council approved the SG/HR's recommendations for Operation ALTHEA in the light of the advice received from the EU Military Committee and underlined the

continued need for an EU military presence to provide reassurance and to react to any possible security challenges. The EU remains committed to BiH. As part of its overall engagement, the EU will retain its military presence as long as necessary in order to continue contributing to the maintenance of a safe and secure environment. Co-operation with NATO continued to work well in respect of Operation ALTHEA.

EUPM

6. Following the submission of the report and plan for police restructuring in Bosnia and Herzegovina by the Directorate for the Implementation of Police Restructuring on 3 January 2007, the role of the **EU Police Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUPM)** in the process, leading to a political agreement on police reform, remained limited to providing policing expertise. However, in anticipation of police restructuring, EUPM identified issues which can be harmonised and is preparing practical steps to facilitate later implementation of elements of the reform.

7. EUPM has successfully assumed the leading role in coordinating the policing aspects of the ESDP efforts in the fight against OC and continued to mentor and advise local authorities in their fight against organised crime and followed a targeted approach that was based on its own comprehensive assessment and analysis of the organised crime situation and the capacity of the police services of Bosnia and Herzegovina. EUPM kept an updated consolidated overview of the EU Coordination Board activities in the fight against organised crime and corruption ('targeting grid') and conveyed deliberations and recommendations of the Board to meetings of local senior police officials under the National Intelligence Model. EUPM's approach has created some momentum among those elements of the BiH police ready to take up sensitive cases in the fight against organised crime.

8. EUPM also continued to mentor and advise local authorities with a view to strengthening the links between the police and the judicial sector, including through holding a conference of high-level police officials and prosecutors from all jurisdiction levels. In the broader framework of EUPM's efforts to promote police accountability, the mission identified, also based on the findings of inspections carried out, a set of recommendations to all police administrations to adopt specific anti-corruption strategies. EUPM has a mandate until 31 December 2007. Discussions concerning possible next steps have been initiated.

EUPT Kosovo / ESDP Mission Kosovo

9. The EU has continued its preparations for a future civilian ESDP crisis management mission in Kosovo after a status settlement. **The EU Planning Team for Kosovo (EUPT Kosovo)**, set up in April 2006, has been reinforced and extended by the Council until September 2007. Since the adoption by the Council of a crisis management concept for the future ESDP mission in Kosovo on 11 December 2006, planning has proceeded with the development of a draft concept of operations. Cooperation with all relevant international stakeholders in Kosovo was undertaken both on the ground and in Brussels. In particular, draft technical arrangements on future cooperation between the ESDP mission and KFOR have been developed. Preparatory work for taking over essential equipment from the UN has been taken forward. In addition, work has started on the staffing requirements of the future mission, with job descriptions distributed and a workshop organised with Member states, as well as a comprehensive assessment of the training needs for the personnel of the future mission, which has been financed by the European Commission. Contacts have also increased with third states that could contribute to the future ESDP mission, including through a workshop at the end of May.

Eastern Europe and Southern Caucasus

EUSR Border Support Team in Georgia

10. The mandate of the EU Special Representative (EUSR) for the South Caucasus was extended until 29 February 2008, prolonging also the activities of the **EUSR Border Support Team in Georgia**. The team continues its work on assisting in the development of a strategy for reform of the Georgian Border Guard service, and its work in the field,

including in developing Standard Operating Procedures at sector level. Following the presentation of a progress report of the BST, Member States also gave consideration to introducing further related activities during the current mandate period, and consequent recruitment and reshuffles of posts have taken place. In January 2007 the Commission and the EU Special Representative for the Southern Caucasus carried out a mission at expert level to Georgia including conflict areas.

EUBAM Moldova/Ukraine

11. The **Border Team of the EUSR for the Republic of Moldova** continued its activities in contributing to developing better cooperation at the Transnistrian segment of the border between Moldova and Ukraine. The activities of the Border Team have been prolonged until 29 February 2008, following the extension of the mandate of the EUSR for the Republic of Moldova. The work of the Border Team of the EUSR for the Republic of Moldova took place in close collaboration with the **EU Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM Moldova/Ukraine)**, EUBAM is a TACIS project, staffed to a large extent by seconded experts from EU Member States. EUBAM promotes coordinated action of and assists the governments of Moldova and Ukraine in areas involving border, customs and fiscal matters, including through monitoring activities. EUBAM is based on a Memorandum of Understanding between the European Commission and the Governments of Moldova and Ukraine. The Memorandum of Understanding establishing the EUBAM is being extended for an additional period of 24 months starting from the 1st December 2007. The Head of EUBAM is also carrying out the function of Senior Political Advisor to the EUSR for Moldova, whose mandate will continue until 29 February 2008, including the Border Team.

Middle East

EUJUST Lex

12. Since July 2005, the EU has been contributing towards strengthening the rule of law in Iraq and to promoting human rights through its Integrated Rule of Law Mission, **EUJUST LEX**. EUJUST LEX works with EU member states to provide training courses and work

experience secondments in EU member states for senior Iraqi judges, prosecutors, senior members of the police force and senior penitentiary personnel. So far, 1044 Iraqi personnel have been trained. EUJUST LEX works closely with Iraqi interlocutors in order to ensure that it delivers training which corresponds to Iraqi needs. The mission has played an active part in supporting the development of the "Comprehensive Strategic Plan for Criminal Justice in Iraq (CSPI)" which was officially introduced in Baghdad on 23 March 2007 by the Chief Justice of Iraq (CJ). EUJUST LEX will continue to work in partnership with all Iraqi ministries and international bodies to improve and implement the plan. EUJUST LEX has a mandate until 31 December 2007. Discussions concerning possible next steps after that date have been initiated.

EUBAM Rafah

13. The **EU Border Assistance Mission for the Rafah Crossing Point (EUBAM Rafah)** continued its third party presence role based on relevant agreements between the Palestinian Authority and the Government of Israel. The situation in the Gaza Strip did not change from the previous semester, and the terminal has been able to open only sporadically, thus limiting the number of people passing through the crossing point. The EU and its Member States have repeatedly called upon all Parties to enable the border to open on a regular basis whenever possible. This has helped to alleviate in part the humanitarian situation of the people living in the Gaza Strip. Additionally, the Mission, together with the EC, has started preparing for upgrading the terminal and training Palestinian Customs Officers in view of allowing both vehicle and commercial traffic towards and from Egypt. On 23 May 2007, the Council agreed on the extension of the EUBAM Rafah mandate for an additional year.

EUPOL COPPS

14. The **EU Police Mission in the Palestinian Territories (EUPOL COPPS)** was launched on 1 January 2006 with a three-year mandate in order to assist the Palestinian Civilian Police in establishing sustainable and effective policing arrangements. EUPOL COPPS has, during the reporting period, continued to contribute to facilitate peace and ease tension. Given the outcome of the Palestinian legislative elections of early 2006 and subsequent Quartet statements, the Mission has scaled down its active involvement with the Palestinian Civil Police and adapted its activities in line with the Quartet principles.

Africa

EUFOR RD Congo

15. After the successful conclusion of operation EUFOR RD Congo and the subsequent redeployment of all EUFOR forces the Council adopted on 27 February 2007 a Joint Action repealing Joint Action 2006/319/CFSP which launched the European Union military operation in support of the United Nations Organisation Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) during the election process.
16. Operation EUFOR RD Congo in support of the MONUC during the electoral process in the DRC again demonstrated the EU's preparedness and ability to support through concrete action the efforts deployed by the UN to secure peace and stability and to engage in close co-operation with the UN at all levels.

EUPOL Kinshasa

17. The **EU police mission in Kinshasa** (EUPOL Kinshasa) has continued with its mentoring, monitoring and advising mission in support of the Integrated Police Unit (IPU) in DRC. The mission has especially completed a whole range of specialized training and courses aimed at enhancing the operational level of the IPU. The IPU is regarded by the Congolese as a very efficient, well trained and equipped police force operating in the capital. EUPOL Kinshasa now focuses on the proper integration of the IPU within the framework of the upcoming reform of the Police Nationale Congolaise (PNC). As the transition process in DRC is completed, the mission has released its reinforcement element which was set up to assist in the coordination of the crowd control units in Kinshasa. The reinforcement element has significantly contributed, along with the EU military operation *EUFOR RD Congo*, to the positive security developments in the capital during the elections. Since the beginning of 2007, the mission has benefited from the support of 4 Security Sector Reform (SSR) experts who have started working on the reform of the PNC. The mission will terminate on 30 June 2007.

EUPOL RD Congo

18. **EUPOL RD Congo**, the new ESDP police mission and its interface with justice, is expected to take over from EUPOL Kinshasa as of 1 July 2007. The mission will assist the Congolese authorities in the reform and restructuring of the Police Nationale Congolaise (PNC), and in the improvement of the overall functioning of the criminal justice system, through a justice interface. The mission will also contribute to the overall efforts in support of the Security Sector Reform (SSR) in DRC, in close coordination with the other actors engaged in SSR, especially the other ESDP mission *EUSEC RD Congo* as well as the Delegation of the European Commission in Kinshasa.

EUSEC RD Congo

19. The mission EUSEC RD Congo has continued to fulfil its mandate in the field of Security Sector Reform since May 2005. Following the installation of the newly elected government in February 2007, the security situation remained quite tense as demonstrated by last March's dramatic events in Kinshasa. This confirmed the necessity for EUSEC RD Congo to maintain a high priority to assisting Congolese authorities in carrying out the integration process of combatants from former factions. The mission's technical project on improving the chain of payments of the Ministry of Defence (MoD) in the DRC has made significant progress in achieving the modernisation of the administration, including through the provision of Communication and Information systems. The salaries for the personnel of the integrated brigades have been increased and their payment is ensured more regularly. The census of the Armed Forces has been initiated using biometric means which will overtime greatly increase the efficiency of human resources' management. On 14 May 2007, the Council has approved the Revised General Concept for prolongation of EUSEC RD Congo until July 2008, while keeping the perspective of a possible single ESDP mission in the field of Security Sector Reform in 2008. The mission is to be reinforced by additional counsellors who will be present within the territorial administration of the Ministry of Defence. Thus EUSEC RD Congo will gradually put an added focus on helping the Government to restructure and reconstruct its armed forces.

EU civilian-military supporting action to the African Union Mission in the Darfur region of Sudan (AMIS II)

20. The EU has continued its **civilian-military supporting action for the African Union (AU) Mission (AMIS)** in the Darfur region of Sudan. A further financial contribution of 40 MEURO is being provided to support the Mission under the African Peace Facility (over 280 MEURO in total). The EU is continuing to give military assistance in the form of technical support and expertise, throughout the AMIS command structure, along with other financial and logistic support, including strategic air transport, provided by EU Member States. The EU also provides the Vice President of the Cease Fire Commission.
21. EU police officers continue to play a key role in building AMIS civilian policing capacity through support, advice and training for the AMIS police chain of command and police officers on the ground. The EU is also continuing its support for the development of AU policing capacity and the establishment of a police unit within the AU Commission in Addis Ababa.
22. The deployment of the UN Heavy Support Package was approved in April and additional troops are expected to reinforce AMIS later in 2007. The EU worked closely with the UN and the AU to support implementing the UN Heavy Support Package with the perspective of transitioning to a full AU/UN hybrid mission. The EU has also maintained close and effective co-ordination with institutional and bilateral donors and worked closely and effectively with the UN, as well as with NATO regarding military support in theatre.
23. The EUSR for Sudan has continued to play a key role in co-ordinating the EU's support to the AU with other donors and actors in the region and continues to provide support to the AU and the UN in their efforts to take forward the political process in Darfur.

EU support for the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM)

24. On 19 January 2007, the Peace and Security Council of the AU agreed on the deployment of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). The EU is providing financial support to AMISOM under the African Peace Facility (15 MEURO in total) and the Instrument for Stability. On 23 April 2007 Council approved the Joint Action 2007/245/CFSP amending Joint Action 2005/557/CFSP on the European Union civilian-military supporting action to the African Union mission in the Darfur region of Sudan with regard to the inclusion of a military support element providing assistance to the setting up of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM).

Asia

EUPOL Afghanistan

25. Building on the EU's and Member States' substantial engagement in Afghanistan, and following the Council's approval of a Crisis Management Concept (CMC) for an **EU police mission to Afghanistan** with linkages to the wider rule of law on 12 February 2007, the Concept of Operations (CONOPS) for the mission EUPOL Afghanistan was approved by the Council on 23 April 2007. EUPOL AFGHANISTAN will aim at contributing to the establishment of sustainable and effective civilian policing arrangements that will ensure appropriate interaction with the wider criminal justice system under Afghan ownership and in accordance with international standards. Counter Narcotics will be addressed as a cross-cutting theme. The mission will work towards a joint overall strategy of the international community in police reform, including through the International Police Coordination Board (IPCB), and help coordinate participating donors' police reform efforts. It will support the Government of Afghanistan in coherently implementing the strategy, through monitoring, mentoring, advising and training at the central, regional and provincial levels, as appropriate.

26. With the assistance of the Head of Mission, planning is underway for the mission. Mission launch is anticipated for mid-June 2007. The planning for the mission is being closely coordinated with the European Commission, particularly in regard to its planned justice reform programme, and with the EUSR in Kabul. The Council General Secretariat is also working closely with the NATO International Staff on the provision of technical support by ISAF in theatre, and with the US, which will be a crucial counterpart in the coordination of strategy for police reform efforts. Furthermore, consultations with the Afghan authorities are ongoing and constructive.

Financing of operations

27. The Council adopted on 14 May 2007 a decision which codifies the original decision of 23 February 2004 establishing ATHENA, a mechanism to administer the financing of the common costs of European Union operations having military or defence implications, notably in the light of subsequent amendments to that decisions agreed in 2004, 2005 and 2006.

II. Lessons Learned

28. On 29-30 January, the German Presidency and the EU Institute for Security Studies organised a seminar entitled "**ESDP: from Cologne to Berlin and beyond. Operations-Institutions-Capabilities**" in Berlin. The aim was to take stock of the achievements accomplished since the launch of ESDP and to discuss the challenges and priorities for the coming years. Over 130 senior national and European officials as well as prominent experts gathered for a rich and productive exchange. In this context, HR/SG Javier Solana elaborated on his intention to introduce a Civilian Operation Commander responsible for the direction and support of civilian Heads of Mission.

EUFOR RD Congo

29. The first stage of the Lessons Learned Process for operation EUFOR RD Congo was concluded. It allowed in particular the identification of gaps concerning the ability to conduct early planning in sufficient detail, inter alia, to allow Member States to assess their potential force contributions and to provide appropriate expertise along the decision-making process. The SG/HR has been requested to address shortcomings in the EU Military Staff's ability to conduct planning at the strategic level for EU-led operations and to submit a report with recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration by the Council at its meeting in November 2007.

AMM

30. In light of the successful completion of the **Aceh Monitoring Mission (AMM)** on 15 December 2006, the Presidency engaged in the identification of lessons both on the EU-ASEAN cooperation in the light of the AMM experience and on issues such as the Planning phase, Human rights and gender issues, DDR, Mission Support, Public Information and Press.
31. On 20 February 2007, the Political and Security Committee took note on EU-ASEAN Cooperation in the light of the experience of the Aceh Monitoring Mission (AMM) prepared by the mission. The AMM played a decisive role in making the Aceh peace process a great success, the collaboration between the EU and five contributing countries from ASEAN has contributed in a significant manner to this success.
32. On 3 April 2007, the PSC endorsed "Aceh Monitoring Mission (AMM) - Lessons Identified and Recommendations", prepared by the Council Secretariat, together with the European Commission and the AMM Liquidation team members. AMM, as well as Initial Monitoring Presence (IMP), have provided since the beginning valuable experience for further conceptual work on ESDP Civilian Crisis Management and also for operational planning.

The planning and set-up of the AMM constituted a real challenge, due to the very tight timeframe imposed by the political process. In less than two months, however, the EU managed to plan and deploy the mission, thus delivering an efficient monitoring presence from the date of the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the both parties in Helsinki on 15 August 2005.

33. A consistent theme identified throughout the review was the need for handbooks and guidelines for staff, especially on Human Rights and financial issues and the need for increased expertise in areas such as Human Rights, Reintegration, Public Information and Press and Mission Security. An overarching need exists for increased and better training at many levels. Rapid deployment of an EU civilian crisis management mission remains to be addressed, in terms of procedures, financing and personnel.

III. Capabilities

Development of civilian capabilities

34. The Council approved the **Guidelines for Command and Control Structure for EU Civilian Operations in Crisis Management**. This document clarifies the command and control structures in civilian ESDP crisis management operations. It sets out the functions, roles and responsibilities of the Civilian Operation Commander (CivOpCdr). The Civilian Operation Commander, when appointed, will exercise command and control at strategic level for the planning and conduct of all civilian ESDP operations under the political control and strategic direction of the PSC and the overall authority of the SG/HR.

Civilian Headline Goal 2008

35. In accordance with the Civilian Capabilities Improvement plan, noted by the Council on 11 December 2006, implementation of the Civilian Headline Goal 2008 (CHG 2008) process in the first semester of 2007 focused on Mission support capabilities; Co-operation with non-EU States, international organisations (IOs) and non-governmental Organisations (NGOs); Lessons Learned from the CHG 2008 Process and civilian-military coordination.

Mission Support Capabilities

36. A list of Member States' replies to the CHG 2008 Questionnaire on required international **mission support personnel** and other international personnel of 9 November 2006 was noted by the competent Council bodies.

Co-operation with non-EU States, international organisations (IOs) and non-governmental Organisations (NGOs)

37. An updated overview of possible contributions from non-EU States to the EU civilian crisis management capability, containing indications from Canada, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey and Ukraine, was noted by the PSC.
38. In April 2007, the Council Secretariat organized a first workshop with experts from **non-EU States, IOs and NGOs**, signalling the important contribution of these actors in this field. The aim of this workshop was to exchange information about civilian crisis management capability development, including best practices in the field of training, recruitment and deployment of civilian crisis management personnel, and to identify areas for closer co-operation. The findings of this workshop were presented to the competent Council bodies in late May 2007.

Lessons Learned from the CHG 2008 Process

39. In March 2007, an expert workshop was held on **lessons learned from the CHG 2008 process**. The aim of this workshop was to consolidate findings of the ongoing civilian capability development experience and improve the future format of the process. Its objective was to collect ideas and recommendations on a possible future civilian capability development process under ESDP beyond 2008 by discussing lessons learned so far in the CHG 2008 process. Findings of this workshop have been presented to the competent Council bodies in May 2007 and will be used for the definition of a possible future civilian capability development process.

Civil-Military Cooperation

40. In June 2007, an expert workshop took place on civilian and military capability planning.

Capabilities Improvement

41. In follow-up to the Civilian Capabilities Improvement plan, a self-assessment questionnaire was distributed among Member States to take stock of progress made in enhancing civilian capabilities at a national level.

CRT concepts and deployment

42. Initial lessons learned and proposals for further implementation of the CRT concept were agreed in March, including an inventory of the availability of CRT experts and areas of expertise in the CRT pool, and consideration of organising an additional CRT call for contributions and induction course to reach the target of 100 experts covering all relevant areas. CRT experts were deployed on an individual basis for the first time in DRC and Afghanistan. A first call for CRTs for initial presence as a team was made in April to facilitate the set-up of the future EUPOL Afghanistan.

Mission Support

43. In the field of human resources, the revision of the European Commission Communication on CFSP Special Advisors and their staff is under way and will contribute to the improvement of the contract regime for international contracted staff. Through providing daily allowances to international contracted staff, the new policy should significantly help in attracting qualified personnel to fill those posts where secondments are not available.

Framework Contracts

44. In the field of procurement, technical work proceeded on the establishment of framework contracts to acquire essential mission equipment and services for civilian ESDP. The first contracts to be concluded will cover health and high-risk insurance, financial liability insurance and strategic transportation, followed with communications and IT equipment and vehicles.

Rapid availability of financing

45. Lack of rapid availability of financing has been identified as a problem for the operational capacity of civilian crisis management operations in the start-up phase. In accordance with the remit following the informal meeting of Heads of state or government at Hampton Court, work has been taken forward to find practical solutions to this problem in order for the EU to be able to launch civilian ESDP operations more rapidly and effectively. Accordingly, the Financial Regulation (FR) and its implementing rules have been amended to provide for possibilities for financing of preparatory measures agreed by the Council *inter alia* to assess the operational requirements, to provide for rapid initial deployment of resources or to establish the conditions on the ground for the launching of civilian crisis management operations.

Development of European Military Capabilities

46. Within the Headline Goal 2010 process and following the agreed Roadmap to the Progress Catalogue, the Force Catalogue 2006, which presents Member States' contributions against the required capabilities as defined in the Requirements Catalogue 2005 (RC 05), was revised to incorporate Bulgaria's and Romania's contributions. This revision resulted in the **Force Catalogue 2007 (FC 07)**, which was noted in February together with its supplement by the Council, which also approved its transmission to NATO for information purposes.
47. Contributions from non-EU European NATO members and countries which are candidates for accession to the EU are presented in the Supplement to FC 07.

48. Based on the FC 07, the Assessment phase – as part of the Scrutinising-Assessing-Evaluating (SAE) process – was conducted, in order to identify shortfalls in the totality of capability contributions against the RC 05. Member States took the opportunity to offer additional contributions and reduced the identified deficits. The Assessment, taking into account the additional contributions, is the precondition for the following Evaluation.
49. The methodology for the evaluation of the potential operational implications of the shortfalls has been developed in the Evaluation Handbook. This evaluation is the next step towards the establishment of the **Progress Catalogue 2007** (PC 07), to be submitted to the Council in November 2007. This catalogue will provide a comprehensive assessment of EU military capabilities needed to fulfil the requirements set out in the Requirements Catalogue. The Progress catalogue will identify all military shortfalls and categorize them in terms of their possible implications on ESDP operations (potential operational risk). This will allow the derivation of military recommendations on their prioritisation and mitigation, in order to serve as a platform for shortfall management and future capability development.
50. The study on **Operational Analysis (OA) tools and techniques** as well as on an **Information Gathering (IG) Tool** for the support of the EU military capability development process, continues in line with the CDM with European Defence Agency's (EDA) participation. An analysis of data regarding tools and techniques available or currently under development and provided by Member States and the NATO Consultation, Command and Control Agency (NC3A) is being conducted.
51. The migration of the **European Capabilities Action Plan (ECAP) Project Groups (PGs)** within the European Defence Agency processes has been completed. A possible way ahead for the future of the remaining ECAP PGs, which concentrate on concepts, doctrines, training, planning guides and operating procedures, is under development.

52. On 1 January 2007, the EU reached **the Full Operational Capability (FOC)** to undertake two **Battlegroup (BG)** size rapid response operations, including the ability to launch two such operations nearly simultaneously. Member States made a multinational Maritime Task Group available in order to support their EU BGs available in the first half of 2007, if required. At the successful six-monthly BG Co-ordination Conference held on 3 May, Member States confirmed their commitments, some of which include participation of European NATO non-EU countries, and made important additional offers allowing the BG schedule to be completed up to the first half of 2010. Additional offers are still necessary to fill vacant slots identified from the second semester of 2010 onwards. At this conference, lessons identified from the BG standby periods were discussed by Member States.
53. Work has started on a possible revision of the **EU Military Rapid Response Concept**, based on a Tri-Presidency (Germany-Portugal-Slovenia) Food-for-Thought paper, in a joint perspective and taking into account the comprehensive approach to crisis management, bearing in mind the EU's level of ambition as laid down in the Headline Goal 2010 process. This paper aims at developing procedures to generate forces rapidly. These forces would be drawn from the Force Catalogue 2007 and additional voluntary force contributions by Member States. This work, which will be concluded by mid-2008, will take due account of the results of the Rapid Response Air Initiative Study and Maritime Rapid Response Concept, which should be elaborated by mid-2007.
54. Workshops were organised in January, March, April, May and June 07 on the Study for the **Rapid Response Air Initiative** in ESDP. Taking into account the air capabilities listed in the RC 05, Member States' experts considered including a possible mechanism allowing the rapid generation of air forces that would be drawn from the FC 07 and additional voluntary contributions by Member States. Furthermore, Member States experts identified refinements for the capability packages listed in the Requirements Catalogue 2005, with a view to offering interoperable sub-components to an air operation such as contributing to a European deployable air base and air assets.

55. With regard to the **Maritime Dimension in ESDP**, the EUMC noted the Maritime Dimension Study in December 2006 and tasked the EUMS to further develop a “Maritime Rapid Response Concept” on the basis of the study.
56. The main elements of the recommendations of the **Global Approach on Deployability (GAD)** Study have been completed. The findings are shared with NATO, in line with the CDM, to ensure transparency and coherence and to progress in areas of common interest. The NATO Allied Deployment and Movement System (ADAMS) software was distributed to Member States and the EUMS in February. Work is being conducted to make this tool usable in strategic deployment planning for EU Crisis Management Operations.
57. In May, the Council noted the **Single Progress Report** on the development of EU military capabilities, which in accordance with the Capability Development Mechanism records progress made in the development of EU military capabilities in the first half of 2007, and agreed to forward it to NATO for information purposes.

IV. European Defence Agency (EDA)

58. The Council noted the Head of the Agency’s report on the European Defence Agency’s activities, which confirmed that the Agency was proving itself a fully effective instrument - with the development of major new strategies and the deepening of specific project activities.

59. Concerning long term strategies, the Agency made substantial progress on:
- Preparing a Capability Development Plan, with the establishment of a methodology and work underway on a roadmap for approval by the Capabilities Steering Board in June 2007 in coordination between participating Member States (pMS), the EUMC and the Agency;
 - Developing a European Defence Technological and Industrial Base (EDTIB), with the adoption of a landmark Strategy to that aim by the ministerial Steering Board on 14 May;
 - And initiating the development of a European Defence R&T Strategy, including the definition of key technologies for Europe, in view of submitting a draft to the Steering Board in the autumn.
60. The Agency has also successfully followed through initiatives launched last year:
- The successful implementation of the Code of Conduct on defence procurement, with the Electronic Bulletin Board (for advertising government-to-industry contracting opportunities) having made a good start and the launch of its complementary section for advertising industry-to-industry opportunities;
 - The signature of the Programme Arrangement of the Defence R&T Joint Investment Programme on Force Protection, by the 19 contributing Member States meeting within the Steering Board of 14 May and by Norway, and the launch of the first call for proposals immediately after;
 - And the progress made in the area of Software Defined Radio, with the Agency ensuring coordination between its activities and the ESSOR project launched by a group of pMS under the Agency's auspices, and securing complementarity of efforts with the Commission initiatives.
61. The intergovernmental regime to encourage competition in the European Defence Equipment Market procurement now will count 24 Member States following the Hungarian and Spanish decision to join from 1 July 2007.

62. Other note-worthy developments include:
- A new approach, supported by the Steering Board on 14 May, to promote Unmanned Aerial Vehicles by addressing the challenge of their insertion into regulated airspace, through an envisaged coordinated effort involving EDA, participating Member States, the Commission and Industry;
 - The promising work towards the formation of an EDA category B ad hoc project on future 21st Century Soldier Systems;
 - And the introduction of a European Defence Standardisation Information System.
63. Lastly, the Agency's portfolio of other R&T collaborative projects now totals some 60, with a combined value approaching 200 MEURO.

V. Civil-Military Cell and Operations Centre

64. The **Civil-Military Cell** continued to provide significant planning support to military and civilian ESDP operations, in particular Kosovo and Afghanistan. Additionally it has been decided that the Civil-Military Cell will provide a watch keeping capability (WKC) in order to ensure 24/7 links with the various military and civilian ESDP operations and Council General Secretariat actors. The WKC will be established within the Operations Centre without prejudice to its full activation for the planning and conduct of an autonomous EU military operation. Activation of the watch-keeping capability using the facilities of the Ops Centre in relation to each civilian operation should be confirmed in the respective Joint Action, and should be available during the preparation of each civilian operation.
65. The **EU Operations Centre** has reached operational capability, providing the EU with an additional capability to plan and run an autonomous EU military operation, in particular where a joint civil/military response is required and where no national Headquarters has been identified, once a decision on such an operation has been taken.

The activation of the EU Ops Centre, and its interaction with an EU FHQ, provided by Sweden, was exercised successfully for the first time during EU military exercise MILEX 07. Lessons identified will be presented in the Final Exercise Report (FER).

VI. EU Satellite Centre (EUSC)

66. The **EU Satellite Centre** continued to provide products and services in support of ESDP related activities. This support covered support for ongoing EU operations and missions, in particular in relation to EU actions in the Balkan region, as well as activities regarding the fight against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and contingency planning. The EUSC has continued its close co-operation with the UN, in particular in support of MONUC (DRC) and UNDOF (Golan Heights), and has taken an active role in the framework of the Global Monitoring for Environment and Security European initiative.

VII. EU Institute for Security Studies (EUISS)

67. The **EU Institute for Security Studies** continued its work with regard to research, debate and analysis on security issues. The Institute provided a focal point for academic exchange, networking and monitoring of the European security agenda as well as a policy-oriented think tank supplying European policy-makers with analysis, advice and suggestions. The Institute has furthermore deepened its support to ESDC activities and assisted the Presidency in the organisation of a high level conference "ESDP - from Cologne to Berlin and beyond" in Berlin, on 29-30 January.

ESDP and Space

68. The work on the actions identified in the Initial Road Map for the "European Space Policy: ESDP and Space" has continued. On 22 May 2007 the joint EU/ESA Space Council adopted a resolution which welcomed and supported the joint Commission/ESA document on European Space Policy, which includes a section on security and defence. It recognised that space technologies are often common between civilian and defence applications and that Europe can, in a user-driven approach, improve coordination between defence and civilian space programmes, pursuing in particular the synergies in the domain of security, whilst respecting the specific requirements of both sectors and the independent decision competences and financing schemes. The Council affirmed the need to set up a structured dialogue with the competent bodies of the Member States and within the EU's second and third pillars and the EDA for optimizing synergies between all aspects of the European Space Policy within the framework of the existing attribution of competences. It recognised that the use made by any military users of GALILEO or GMES must be consistent with the principle that GALILEO and GMES are civil systems under civil control, and consequently that any change to this principle would require examination in the framework of Title V/TEU and in particular Articles 17 and 23 thereof, as well as in the framework of the ESA convention.
69. On 16 March 2007, the EUISS held a seminar on Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES) with a view to raise stakeholders' awareness on the security dimension of GMES and to obtain guidance for implementation.

VIII. Civil-Military Co-ordination (CMCO)

70. In February, a methodology for identifying **Information Exchange Requirements (IER)** was noted by the Political and Security Committee. This work aims at defining operational requirements for exchanging information between all entities, both civilian and military, that may interact in support of ESDP operations with a view to a comprehensive approach. The establishment of an agreed IER will provide a reference point from which EU Network Enabled Capability (NEC) activities can be built.
71. A case study and recommendations on CMCO in the EU supporting action to the AU in Darfur was noted by PSC on 29 May 2007. This has fed into an overall compilation of practical recommendations on CMCO in theatre on the basis of experiences in BiH, Darfur and DRC to be noted by the PSC.

IX. Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR) and Security Sector Reform (SSR)

72. The Presidency, in co-operation with the Institute for European Politics (IEP), organised an expert seminar on "EU Contribution to Disarmament, Demobilisation & Reintegration (DDR): A Look at Bosnia and Herzegovina". The one-day event brought together policy makers and specialists to evaluate the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina twelve years after the Dayton Peace Agreement. It highlighted still existing challenges in the field of DDR with respect to i.a. the reduction of small arms and light weapons (SALW). The seminar also discussed the further role of the EU as an important actor for security and stability in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

X. Human Rights and Gender Issues

73. At the PSC meeting on 1 June, the Presidency presented a handbook on “Mainstreaming of Human Rights and Gender into ESDP” comprising the relevant documents adopted by the EU in this area that could be used or built upon in future planning documents, lessons learned processes and for training purposes. PSC also recommended that Heads of Missions and Force Commanders issue pocket cards – based on a generic pocket card to be developed by the relevant Council bodies - for ESDP Personnel, referring to general rules of behaviour, the protection of Human Rights, Gender issues, children affected by armed conflict and, as appropriate, the use of force.
74. Work continued to implement the checklists on Implementation of UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security and UNSCR 1612 on Children and Armed Conflict in the context of ESDP. Human Rights and Gender issues have started to be systematically included in the planning and conduct of all ESDP operations, and subsequently evaluated in the lessons learned processes. The mandates of EUSRs now contain specific provisions to address Human Rights and Gender issues.
75. In the planning process of the upcoming missions of EUPOL Afghanistan, EUPOL RD Congo and ESDP Mission Kosovo, Human Rights and Gender issues have been taken into account from the early planning documents. For example, EUPT Kosovo plans for an entire Human Rights and Gender Issues Unit and EUPOL Afghanistan is recruiting a Human Rights and a Gender Advisor as part of its staff. EUBAM Rafah appointed a Gender Advisor. The enlarged mission EUSEC RD Congo and EUPOL RD Congo will share the functions of Human Rights and Gender Advisor.

76. With the support of the Presidency, Hungary organised the first "Gender and ESDP" Course in Budapest on April 18-20, 2007. The pilot course aimed at introducing participants to gender issues and their relevance to ESDP. In its conclusions of 15 May, the Council called for the course to be standardised and incorporated into the annual EU Training Programme relevant to ESDP and reiterated its view that emphasis should also be put on mission-specific training in this field.

XI. Conflict Prevention

77. The European Union continued its efforts in the area of conflict prevention, including implementation of the EU Programme for the Prevention of Violent Conflicts and the European Security Strategy. Efforts were pursued to further strengthen its instruments both from a conceptual point of view and across the wide spectrum of its conflict prevention activities, with a view to enhancing coherence between the EU's various external policy instruments as well as cooperation between the EU institutions and the Member States.

78. Making use of both short term and long term instruments in conflict management undertaken in the framework of CFSP and ESDP, the European Commission and Member States' bilateral activities, the EU enhanced its effectiveness in responding to the crises and largely contributed to peace and stability around the world. The increase of geographical and thematic scope of the EU action, especially through the civilian and military crisis management operations, should be considered an important asset in strengthening the EU conflict prevention capacity.

79. Following the practice established under previous presidencies, a workshop "Enhancing Cooperation with Major Players in Conflict Prevention" organised by the Madariaga European Foundation, the Folke Bernadotte Academy with support of the German Presidency was held in Brussels on 19 April 2007.

XII. Co-operation with Non-Governmental Organisations

80. To enhance the dialogue between NGOs and the members of Council preparatory bodies, the Presidency regularly invited **NGO representatives** to give **briefings to members of the Committee for Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management** in accordance with the Recommendations for Enhancing Co-operation with NGOs and CSOs. Representatives from a variety of international NGOs (such as Swisspeace, Search for Common Ground, Amnesty International, International Center for Transitional Justice) presented briefings on Afghanistan, DR Congo, Gaza, Kosovo and Bosnia. Particular care was taken to ensure that NGO input would be given during the early stages of the planning phase for civilian ESDP missions.
81. A Conference on “Partners in Conflict Prevention and Crisis Management: EU and NGO Cooperation” took place in Berlin on 20-21 June. The conference brought together 150 leading representatives from NGOs and the EU. It aimed to foster confidence between the EU and MS on the one hand and NGOs on the other. In preparation of this conference, a Policy Seminar "Role of Civil Society - Learning from the Field" was organised on 29 March 2007 in Brussels that brought together representatives from NGOs, EU Institutions, MS Permanent Representations and Academia. The Seminar focused on how to make EU-NGO cooperation effective in the field and analysed case studies, but also provided a Headquarters and in-field perspective on ESDP missions and Community Programmes.

XIII. EU Training in the field of ESDP

82. In February 2007, the Council approved the EU Training Programme in ESDP for the years 2007-2009, which was made available on the web page of the Council where the details of the activities will be kept updated regularly.

83. Training activities in the field of ESDP of the various EU actors conducted in the previous years have been thoroughly evaluated in the **annual Final Training Report** and steps identified to further improve training activities have been approved by the Council, taking into account the need for a balanced approach between civilian and military training.
84. The **European Security and Defence College (ESDC)** successfully continued its training activities. A second General Annual Report has been adopted by the ESDC Steering Committee describing the activities conducted, the progress reached so far and the deficiency areas which still exist. The Steering Committee decided to include a course for press and public information officers as a regular course of the annual ESDC programme. France organised a successful ESDP pilot course on "EU-Africa partnership on peace and security" in June, with the aim of improving the awareness of the challenges of crisis management in Africa and the role of ESDP.
85. On 25/26 June, for the second time, a **networking conference** is being organised by the Presidency which convenes policy makers in the field of training as well as representatives from national civilian, military, police and diplomatic training institutions dealing with training in the field of ESDP. This ESDP networking conference will be a forum for exchanging ideas, taking stock of education and training activities so far, finding common ground as well as identifying and addressing room for improvement.
86. In order to strengthen European military effectiveness, the European Union Military Committee (EUMC) followed up on a French initiative concerning the sharing of Member States' training facilities on a voluntary basis. A catalogue of these shared training facilities has been elaborated and is available online.

87. The increase and development of civilian crisis management operations has brought a greater focus to the need for training of civilian staff for crisis management operations. Many Member States participated actively in the European Community Project on Training for Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management, considering it a very valuable additional element in the sense that it creates a European forum for exchange of views and best practices in the field of EU's civilian crisis management.
88. In view of launching a new ESDP mission in Kosovo, the Council Secretariat carried work forward in order to co-ordinate pre-mission training for key mission personnel. A comprehensive assessment of the training needs for the personnel of the future mission has been financed by the European Commission.

XIV. Exercises

89. The EU Military Exercise MILEX 07 was conducted from 7 to 15 June 2007. MILEX 07 exercised and evaluated military aspects of EU crisis management at the military strategic and operational level based on a scenario for an envisaged EU-led crisis management operation without recourse to NATO common assets and capabilities. The activation of the EU Ops Centre, and its interaction with an EU FHQ, provided by Sweden, was exercised successfully for the first time. Lessons identified will be presented in the Final Exercise Report (FER).
90. The dates of the Initial Planning Meeting for the Military Exercise MILEX 08 are 19 and 20 June 2007.
91. The EU Exercise Programme Meeting took place on 28 February in order to discuss the Exercise Programme for 2008 to 2012. The Exercise Programme for 2008 has been adopted by the Council on 17 April 2007.

92. On 14 May 2007 the Council recalled the importance it attaches, in accordance with the EU exercise policy, to the planning and conduct of regular crises management exercises, including jointly with NATO and with the participation of all EU Member States.
93. The Post Exercise Discussion of the Exercise Study EST 06 took place on 01 March 2007. The Final Exercise Report has been noted by the PSC on 29 March 2007.

XV. ESDP and Africa, including ESDP support to strengthening African capabilities for the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts

94. On May 14, 2007, the Council reaffirmed the importance it attaches to cooperation with African partners in the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts, and underlined its wish to see its further development in the context of the forthcoming EU-Africa Summit in Lisbon in December 2007, where a Joint-EU-Africa strategy should be adopted.
95. In March, PSC had a discussion on the implementation of the EU concept on strengthening African capabilities for the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts. This concept aims at supporting the AU's ongoing establishment of an African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA), including the creation of the African Stand-by Force (ASF). An action plan for implementation was also developed and approved.
96. In close association with the African partners and in co-ordination with the other partners involved, and in particular the UN, several concrete proposals were identified with a view to providing support to the development of the African Peace and Security Architecture, with a particular focus on making the African Standby Force (ASF) operational and enhancing AU and SRO's institutional capacities.

97. Recommendations and action plan aimed at strengthening the partnership between Africa and the EU in the field of African capabilities for the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts were adopted with a view to the swift implementation of the action plan, including the development of RECAMP into a European instrument, in order, i.a., to support the AU's operational certification of the ASF at the continental level. Other national programmes, both in Africa and in Europe may be made available, in support of the development of the ASF. The importance of developing options for long-term solutions on funding and operational support for African peace support operations was emphasized.

XVI. Co-operation with International Organisations, Mediterranean Partners and Third States

EU-NATO

98. The EU and NATO have continued to develop further their **strategic partnership in crisis management**. Regarding Operation ALTHEA, EU-NATO co-operation in the context of the “Berlin Plus” arrangements has continued to work smoothly and efficiently in Brussels as well as in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The EU and NATO have moreover continued to co-operate, including through a joint airlift co-ordination cell in Addis Ababa, to ensure effective support for the AU Mission in Darfur, Sudan (AMIS). Through PSC - NAC meetings exchange of information took place on Operation ALTHEA; as well as on Kosovo with the participation of all EU Member States and NATO Allies. Preparations for future EU-NATO in-theatre cooperation in Kosovo and in Afghanistan benefited from meetings between the SG/HR and the NATO SG as well as EU and NATO staffs.
99. Co-operation has been facilitated through the permanent EU Cell at SHAPE and the NATO permanent liaison team at the EU Military Staff.

100. In the field of capability development, the **EU-NATO Capability Group** continued to exchange information where requirements overlap, in accordance with the Capabilities Development Mechanism. The Group discussed *inter alia* EU Battlegroups and the NATO Response Force as well as some specific capability areas of common interest such as Defence Data Gathering and Force Protection. All EU Member States were kept informed about these issues. Additionally, NATO experts have been invited to a meeting of the EU Military Committee Working Group /Headline Goal Task Force (HTF) in the “HTF-Plus” format.

EU-UN

101. The EU and the UN agreed a Joint Statement on UN-EU Cooperation in Crisis Management. Following intensified UN-EU cooperation, the EU and the UN agreed to build on the Joint UN-EU declaration of 2003 by, *inter alia*, holding more regular political dialogue at senior level, considering further steps to enhance cooperation, and by establishing mechanisms and lessons learned exercises for crisis situations where the UN and the EU are jointly engaged.
102. EU-UN co-operation has continued to be an important axis of the development of ESDP.
103. The EU is working closely with UNMIK on the ground and with DPKO in New York to ensure that there will be a seamless transition from UNMIK to the ESDP Mission in Kosovo. UNMIK has indicated that it will maintain operational strength until the very end of its mandate and EU planning foresees a build-up its personnel during the 120-day transition, with a number of personnel transitioning directly from UNMIK to the ESDP Mission on the day of transfer of authority.
104. The EU continued its efforts in support of the work carried out by the MONUC in DRC. During the Presidency, the EU worked on the planning for a new civilian mission in DRC. This mission, EUPOL RD Congo, will succeed EUPOL Kinshasa and will assist the Congolese authorities on police reform and its interface with the rule of law.

105. On the ground, a close co-operation between the EU and the UN was maintained regarding support to the AU Mission in Darfur, Sudan (AMIS), including the ongoing implementation of the UN heavy support package to AMIS.
106. On 20 February 2007, the UN Security Council issued a Presidency Statement which underlines the importance of security sector reform. This was also in line with the EU efforts to further strengthen the co-operation between the UN and the EU in the DRC, where MONUC and EUSEC RD Congo participate in the co-ordination of security sector reform issues.
107. EU and the UN have carried on consultations at staff level, in particular considering the EU-UN co-operation during operation EUFOR RD Congo.
108. Meetings between representatives of both the EU and the UN continued, *inter alia* through the consultative mechanism, the EU-UN Steering Committee, which took place in New York on 30/31 May 2007.
109. The Presidency has organised a seminar on "Military aspects of UN-EU co-operation in crisis management operations in the light of EUFOR RD Congo" (Berlin, 19 – 21 March 2007). The seminar provided a platform for around 150 representatives from EU Member States, the United Nations Department for Peacekeeping Operations, the EU Council Secretariat, the EUFOR RD Congo and MONUC Headquarters as well as other organisations and think tanks to discuss EU-UN co-operation in military crisis management with a view to further improving the effectiveness of EU support to the UN. The findings of this seminar will be considered by the competent Council bodies.

EU-OSCE

110. The German EU Presidency coincided with the start of the Spanish OSCE Chairmanship, which ensured a smooth coordination of EU and OSCE activities during that period. Active debate of regional issues, such as Moldova, Kosovo, Central Asia and Caucasus, in both fora reflected common political priorities and interests between both organisations. On 23 January the EU-OSCE Troika held a meeting to exchange ideas on these topics.
111. On Kosovo, EU and OSCE cooperate in ensuring a good preparation of the forthcoming ESDP Rule of Law /Police Mission, pending the success of the status agreement talks under UN-auspices. Training and coordination were discussed during talks with the OSCE on Kosovo.

EU-AU and African Sub-Regional Organisations

112. On 20 February 2007, the Political and Security Committee requested the General Secretariat of the Council and the Commission to take work forward on creating an EU representation to the AU. The representation will in particular support the EU/AU partnership, including on strengthening the AU's crisis management capabilities.
113. Discussions within the EU, as well as with African counterparts have taken place to prepare a joint EU/Africa strategy. On 15 May, the EU-Africa Ministerial Troika endorsed the outline for this joint strategy that will include security aspects.

Mediterranean Partners

114. Dialogue between the EU and Mediterranean Partners continued to be pursued with a view to strengthening co-operation in the field of security and defence. The Euro-Mediterranean Senior Officials Meeting devoted to ESDP took place on 13 June. Information meetings also continued to be organised by the Secretariat for the benefit of Mediterranean Partners, including on EU exercises. Mediterranean Partners continued to participate in ESDP-Operations.

Third States: USA, Russia, Ukraine

115. Third states have continued to provide valuable contributions to a number of ongoing ESDP civilian operations: EUPM (Canada, Iceland, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey and Ukraine), EUPOL Kinshasa (Canada and Turkey) and AMIS II (Canada). EUPOL Afghanistan and the forthcoming ESDP mission in Kosovo will benefit from the broad participation from third-country partners.
116. EU continued the close co-operation in ESDP crisis management with non-EU European NATO members, Canada and other third states. Participants from the third states, including from USA, Canada, Russia and Ukraine have been invited to attend the ESDP Orientation Course on 11-15 June. USA, Canada, Russia and Ukraine were also invited to receive information briefings in the context of Military Exercise MILEX 07.

USA

117. The close dialogue and co-operation with the US in the context of ESDP crisis management continued and was enhanced, including on Kosovo, Afghanistan, the Middle East and the DRC. At the EU-US Summit in Washington on 30 April, the parties adopted a declaration on political and security issues, including on crisis management, in order to deepen their strategic partnership based on common values. In the declaration agreed at the EU-US summit on 30 April 2007, the US indicated that it is looking forward to US participation in the future ESDP mission in Kosovo. In the margins of the EU-US Summit, the EU-USA Agreement on the security of classified information was signed, which has entered into force, allowing further progress.

Russia

118. In the framework of the Road Map for the Common Space on External Security, work continued to strengthen the dialogue with Russia on co-operation in crisis management. On 11 May, the Russian Chief of Defence met, at an informal session, with the EU Military Committee at the level of Chiefs of Defence.

Ukraine

119. The Council on 22 January 2007 has adopted the negotiating directives of the new “enhanced” agreement between the EU and the Ukraine. The parties aimed to build increasingly close relationship and to enhance co-operation in foreign and security policy, including in crisis management. This co-operation has been further facilitated through the entry into force on 1 February of the Agreement between Ukraine and the EU on the security procedures for the exchange of classified information. Good contacts were pursued between the Ukrainian Chief of Defence and the Chairman of the EU Military Committee, who met on 10 May in Brussels. An expert level seminar with the participation of EU Council General Secretariat and Ukrainian MoD representatives took place in Kiev on 24-25 May, focusing on practical aspects of EU-UA co-operation in exercises, training and in crisis management operations.

XVII. Mandate for the incoming Presidency

120. On the basis of the present report and taking into account the European Security Strategy, the incoming Presidency, assisted by the Secretary-General/High Representative and in association with the Commission, is invited to continue work on developing the European Security and Defence Policy, and in particular:

- To prepare and ensure the effective implementation of decisions related to present and future operations and missions, both civilian and military. Special efforts should be done for the finalisation of the planning and launch in due time of the ESDP Rule of Law mission in Kosovo.
- To continue developing civilian capabilities aiming to, in the Civilian Capabilities Improvement Ministerial Conference in November, conclude the Civilian Headline Goal (CHG) 2008 and establish a new CHG.
- To implement, to the furthest extent possible, the new Guidelines for Command and Control Structure for the EU Civilian Operations in Crisis Management.

- To continue work on the development of military capabilities in the framework of the Headline Goal 2010 on the basis of the agreed Roadmap, namely through the finalisation of the Progress Catalogue, which will serve as a platform for shortfall management and future capability development, in order to be submitted to the GAERC meeting in November.
- Based on the Tri-Presidency paper take forward work on a possible revision of the EU Military Rapid Response Concept in a joint perspective and taking into account the EU level of ambition as laid down in the HLG 2010 process.
- To foster work in view of fulfilling the Council's request to the SG/HR to address shortcomings in the EUMS's ability to conduct planning at the strategic level for EU-led operations and to submit a report with recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration by the Council at its meeting in November 2007.
- To take work forward on the Lessons Identified/Lessons Learned-process from Operation EUFOR RD Congo.
- Related to the civil-military co-ordination (CMCO), to continue the work on the establishment of Information Exchange Requirements which will provide a key reference point upon which EU Network Enabled Capability activities can be built.
- To support the European Defence Agency in its major approaches and activities and, in particular, the development of the Capability Development Plan.
- To continue implementing the EU exercise programme, including follow up to MILEX 07, the planning of Crisis Management Exercise CME 08 and planning of MILEX 08.
- To strengthen training relevant to ESDP, encompassing both civilian and military dimensions, taking into account ESDC and national activities as well as Community instruments; to take work forward in the ESDC Steering Committee with a view to a revision of the Council Joint Action establishing the ESDC.
- To take forward work on the ESDP contribution to Security Sector Reform (SSR) and Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR).
- To enhance the EU-NATO strategic partnership in crisis management; to ensure mutually reinforcing development of military capabilities where requirements overlap; and to ensure practical, effective coordination when the two organizations are engaged in the same theatre, in particular Kosovo and Afghanistan.

- To further intensify consultations and cooperation with the United Nations in crisis management in line with the Joint Statement on “EU-UN Cooperation in crisis management signed on 7th June, 2007.
- To foster the dialogue, consultations and co-operation with the African Union and Sub-regional Organisations. To continue implementing coherent and coordinated support for African partners through the Council-agreed recommendations and action plan aimed at strengthening the partnership between Africa and the EU in the field of African Capabilities for the Prevention, Management and Resolution of Conflicts, as well as in the context of the forthcoming EU-Africa Summit, where a Joint EU-Africa Strategy should be adopted.
- To continue close dialogue and co-operation in crisis management with other key partners, in particular the OSCE, European non-EU NATO members and State candidates for accession, the USA, Canada, Russia, Ukraine and Switzerland.
- To develop and deepen the dialogue with the Mediterranean countries in order to enhance cooperation on ESDP and security issues.
- To continue the EU engagement in the Western Balkans through ongoing and future activities.
- To continue promoting the effective implementation of relevant human rights related provisions in the context of ESDP crisis management activities, including the provisions of UNSCR 1612.
- To continue promoting gender mainstreaming in the context of ESDP crisis management activities, including the implementation of relevant provisions of UNSCR 1325.
- To enhance dialogue and information exchange with NGOs and civil society.