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**ENFOCUSTOM 63
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NOTE

from: UK delegation

to: Customs Co-operation Working Party

No. prev. doc. : 14054/05 ENFOCUSTOM 68 ENFOPOL 144 COTER 64 UD 137
13532/2/06 REV 2 ENFOCUSTOM 66 ENFOPOL 165 COTER 39 UD 94
6507/1/08 REV 1 ENFOCUSTOM 28 ENFOPOL 35 COTER 7 UD 22

Subject : Fourth action plan to take forward customs counter-terrorism initiatives
- Report from the project group

This fourth action plan of the Customs Cooperation Working Group's project group on counter-terrorism (the Counter-Terrorism Project Group – CTPG) is presented for agreement of the CCWP. It was created at the 28th April meeting of the CTPG, and is intended to run in tandem with the CCWP's 18-month 2008-9 plan.

DELETED the United Kingdom remains the CTPG Chair.

Working Plan for the Counter Terrorism Project Group

Introduction

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

Associated Documents

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

Aim

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

Objective

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

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

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

Action Plan

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

ACTION PLAN FOR THE COUNTER TERRORISM PROJECT GROUP (CTPG) FOR THE PERIOD 1st JULY 2008- 31st DECEMBER 2009

Action	Response to proposals	Deadline	Current Position
1. Increase the level of terrorism awareness within Customs			
1.1 Request Terrorism Threat Assessments (TTAs) from SitCen for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DELETED 	The Hague Programme EU Plan of Action	Continuing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DELETED

1.2 Produce inventory of threat assessments and risk analyses.	The Hague Programme	July 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be produced from the results of point 1.1 above
1.3 Contribute to the development and trialling of the principals of Supply Chain Security as introduced by the CCC and WCO Framework of Standards (SAFE FoS)	CCC WCO SAFE FoS	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DELETED • UK Customs to make presentation at September CTPG meeting DELETED
2. Identify ways customs administrations can enhance their capabilities to combat terrorism.			

<p>2.1 Identify training and best practice available in MS and other countries and develop into EU guidelines for future training that ensure an awareness of the terrorism threat and the role of Customs in combating it; explore possibilities for dissemination.</p>	<p>EU Plan of Action The Hague Programme</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At CTPG’s request, Training Project Group included request for information on need for CT training in questionnaire to MSs. Analysis of replies (published as Document 16883/1/06 REV 1 JAI 722 ENFOCUSTOM 91 dated 04.01.2007) identified a need for such training – DELETED • Germany and UK have together developed training guidelines, using the German Risk Analysis Manual as a basis. They compared their national training programmes and legal differences and have completed the guidelines, which they presented to the CTPG. Germany and UK to now explore possibilities for dissemination. • DELETED
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2.2	<p>Monitor the latest research in, and development and trialling of, equipment that will assist in the fight against terrorism at the external frontier and promote the use of suitable equipment at the frontier</p>	<p>EU Plan of Action The Hague Programme</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DELETED • Commission Green Paper on detection technologies for law enforcement, customs and other security authorities, published in September 2006. DELETED • Research, development and deployment part of the Integrated Border Management Action Plan

			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Equipment to be deployed where available as part of Operations• UK to see what the latest developments at Ispra are and report to CTPG.• DELETED
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<p>3. Carry out operations to test Customs ability to respond to the terrorist threat</p>			
<p>3.1 Identify, co-ordinate and carry out targeted Joint and Multi-agency (i.e. with other Law Enforcement Agencies, including FRONTEX) Operations that verify and inform TTAs and support the work in other groups.</p>	<p>The Hague Programme EU Plan of Action</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission advised that MS had the possibility to apply for co-funding for these types of actions under the conditions of the AGIS programme and its successor programme. • DELETED. <i>This was presented to the CTPG in April 2008. Germany will present this to the CCWG in June 2008 and would appreciate the support of CTPG members.</i> • Once information is received from SitCen, further consideration to be given to new operations DELETED

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All CTPG members have been asked to consult their colleagues in National Security Agencies for ideas on what future CTPG operations they would consider to be of value. • CTPG members to discuss with their administrations if an exercise DELETED would be useful.
3.2	Evaluate joint Customs counter-terrorism operations and identify 'lessons learnt'.	The Hague Programme EU Plan of Action	Ongoing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DELETED • Other evaluations to be presented as operations are carried out.
4.	Enhance inter-agency working (Hague Programme)		
4.1	Co-operation and coordination with other 1 st , 2 nd & 3 rd Pillar groups & law enforcement agencies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish which 1st, 2nd & 3rd Pillar groups are dealing with counter-terrorism and their plans for the future • Co-ordinate Customs actions with those of other groups. • Ensure that Customs, as required, fully 	The Hague Programme	Met & Ongoing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of organisations identified by the Commission collated and circulated to CTPG members (MEMO/05/332 of 21.09.05) • CTPG recognised that regular liaison and coordination with these groups was vital as some were in a better position to know what was happening in CT arena than CTPG. • Presentation of the work of CTPG made to

<p>participate in other groups' actions .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider how to co-ordinate CTPG activities with other international groups' counter-terrorism work 			<p>Terrorism W/G and CCWP Plenary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MS to ensure that they identify those groups in which they are represented and ensure they are briefed on the work of the CTPG. • MS identified other international groups with which it would be beneficial to maintain contact, exchange knowledge / information / experience and coordinate activity e.g. ASEM, OCD, APEC, WCO, Europol, Frontex, Interpol, UN CT Group.
<p>4.2 Investigations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examine and report on requirements in relation to the exchange of information and the coordination of investigations, in particular relating to restriction on exportation and prevention of WMD 	<p>CCWP Work Plan 2008-2009 (Item 2)</p>	<p>September 2008</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Germany has prepared an analysis of the situation in Germany, and sent out a questionnaire to Member States • Germany is currently producing an evaluation of the replies and considering which further steps to take.

<p>4.3 Counter-Terrorism Data Exchange and Exchange of Risk Indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and define what data is required to be exchanged. • Identify who it needs to be exchanged with and the appropriate channels. • Establish the suitability of Information System software and hardware for counter-terrorism data transfers between EU Customs administrations and between national law enforcement agencies • Consider how to improve the exchange of information between Customs and other Law Enforcement Agencies. 	<p>The Hague Programme</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk indicators produced by DELETED. To be merged. • Operations will test relevant indicators • Data elements for security now part of CCC Implementing Regulations • Computerised communication systems, DELETED, to be used for Operations. • DELETED
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5. Raise the political awareness of the role of Customs and the expertise that can be provided in the fight against terrorism			
5.1 Provide information to relevant High-level meetings on the work of the CTPG, on terrorist issues and the contribution that Customs Authorities can and should make to the fight against terrorism.	The Hague Programme EU Plan of Action	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presidency and MS to ensure that delegates and representatives attending meetings are fully briefed.
6. Reports			
6.1 Report through CCWP to Directors General and Council on the work of the group and on any legal and practical constraints		Each Presidency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair to provide regular oral and written reports to CCWP.