

2nd JHAAN meeting, 21 June 2021

TOUR DE TABLE - Europol

Strategic developments at Europol

- New DEDO Mr Jean Philippe Lecouffe took office on 16 May 2021.
- The June MB meeting, decided to establish a new Information Management (IM) Unit in the Capabilities Directorate, reporting directly to the Deputy Executive Director Capabilities. The IM Unit shall be in charge of the implementation of the objectives identified in the IM strategy. It would build on the existing Capabilities Directorate Business Product Management (CDBPM) Team. It would also include the Business Product Management (BPM) for corporate (including administrative) systems, the IM Secretariat and the innovation components (including the Innovation Lab functions and relevant IT innovation capabilities). Why this new Unit? The Directorate recognised the need to enhance the overall coordination of IM across the agency. Innovation is a core component in IM, to co-ordinate innovation activities internally and externally and to promote shared technological solutions for Member States in the field of internal security.
- Creation of a Corporate Security Department in the Governance Directorate. It will consist of two Units: 1) **Security Operations Unit**, which will include all activities in the domain of security operations & technology, aiming at providing direct (physical) security services in relation to the Europol HQ, staff and Liaison Bureaux, next to containing operational facilities and infrastructure services; 2) **Security Risk Management Unit**, bringing together all services which are delivered across the organisation to protect information, increase resilience, manage crises, pro-vice risk based assessments and advice to relevant stakeholders, next to containing the directly related facilities services.
- Europol's **Crisis Management Team** recently performed a comprehensive review of the agency's de-escalation planning, taking into account the vaccination progress, the current epidemiological situation in the Netherlands and at Europol, the advice of the Medical Service and pandemic projections of independent global health research centres. With the situation recently improving, the maximum occupancy of the buildings was increased, paying special attention to the business needs of the Liaison Offices. However, the occupancy remains limited and teleworking is still the norm although teleworking capabilities are being enhanced. Additional mobile offices were procured and deployed.
- Europol's management is meeting with the other EU agencies in the justice and home affairs area on a regular basis.
 - On 2 March Eurojust and Europol addressed the Heads of EU Missions in The Hague at the beginning of March, jointly presenting the Encrochat case.

- On 31 May Eurojust and Europol also participated in the meeting organised by the German Embassy in The Hague to celebrate the so-called “Berlin Process” to incentivize the EU membership process of the Western Balkans.
 - On 20 May, the ED participated together with her CEPOL colleague, Mr Schröder to the Coffee Talks initiative organised by CEPOL focused on the topic “Trends of serious organised crime and law enforcement cooperation.”
 - Europol ED and CEPOL ED, organised on 27 May the ‘EUCrimACon 2’1 (EU Criminal Analysis Conference 2021). The aim of this conference was to address criminal analysis in the EU, highlighting both strategic and operational analysis capabilities, as well as the importance of analysis training. The EUCrimACon also aims at displaying European analytical talents.
 - On 24 June, ED will meet with the Director of the **Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA)** Mr O’Flaherty, whereby they will be signing a MoU, the first agreement ever between the two agencies.
- **COVID-19 CHIEFS OF POLICE WORKING GROUP MEETS TO TALK PANDEMIC AND FIGHTING CRIME THREATS**, On May 26, Europol’s Executive Director, Catherine De Bolle and Vittorio Rizzi, Deputy Director-General of Police and Director of the Criminal Police in Italy held the 5th meeting of the COVID-19 WG on COVID-19 related crime threats and law enforcement responses. The COVID-19 chiefs of police working group is an important initiative for law enforcement agencies to work together in monitoring the situation and coordinating the appropriate responses. Last meeting focused on the financial well-being of the EU.

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Working arrangements

- Working arrangement with Chile signed on 29 April 2021.
- Text of WA with Armenia, Andorra, San Marino and FRA endorsed at the June MB meeting.
- Signature of MoU with FRA foreseen on 24 June (FRA Director will visit Europol HQs).

Overview on operational support provided by Europol in Q1 2021

- supported 1025 operations
- Provided 24,131 contributions for analysis
- 73,575 new suspects inserted in Europol databases
- Participation in 68 EMPACT action days
- Is participating in 37 Joint Investigation Teams (JITs)
- 275 thematic reports drafted + 5 strategic reports (i.e. Situation report on fake invoice fraud in connection with the EU trademark registration (*BPL*); 10th report to COSI on the outlook on developments in terrorism in the EU (*EU Restricted*); Report on outlaw motor cycle gangs and right wing extremism (*EU Restricted*); 8 Europol monitoring team (EPMT) reports: illegal migration & THB- trends, phenomena, hotspots (*BPL*); Cryptocurrency services review guide (*BPL LE only*).