NOTE

from: French delegation

to: Police Cooperation Working Party

Nos prev. docs: 4202/95 ENFOPOL 11

Subject: Police cooperation:
- Summary of replies to questionnaire 4202/95 ENFOPOL 11 on the coordination of police cooperation for the countries of Central and Eastern Europe (CCEEs)
NOTE FROM THE FRENCH DELEGATION

QUESTIONNAIRE 4202/95 ENFOPOL 11
ON THE COORDINATION OF POLICE COOPERATION
FOR THE CCEEs

SUMMARY OF REPLIES

An examination of the replies to the Irish and Danish questionnaires has shown that the police forces of the CCEEs are receiving bilateral aid from a number of countries of the Union and confirmed that the bilateral cooperation programmes of these Member States are in several cases redundant.

This finding has however made it possible to reach a consensus on coordinating such assistance under the aegis of the European Union.

However, some Member States have already implemented specific or structural coordination in a bilateral or restricted multilateral context, to encourage such joint actions.

Only 10 Member States answered the questionnaire. We know, however, that some of the delegations which failed to reply have no technical cooperation with the CCEEs (see annual list of bilateral measures). Some delegations probably agreed amongst themselves to provide a single contribution in order to avoid superfluous replies.

An examination of the replies reveals that only 5 countries have put in place bilateral or multilateral coordination with European partners: Germany, Denmark, Finland, France and Sweden. This takes the form of either structural coordination (for the whole cooperation programme), or specific coordination, or coordination with international organizations.

Lastly, some delegations spoke of national coordination.
1. **NATIONAL COORDINATION**

   Cooperation for the CCEEs is coordinated nationally in Belgium and Germany.

   1.1. **Belgium**

       The International Police Cooperation Division of the General Department of Police Support coordinates the training initiatives taken by the various Belgian police departments; implementing arrangements are under examination.

   1.2. **Germany**

       The Bund-Länder-Clearingstelle (BLC), a body set up in December 1993, is responsible for coordinating training and equipment programmes between the Federation and the Länder. The BLC coordinates measures taken by police departments, as well as those taken by the customs, to combat cross-border crime and international drug trafficking.

       The BLC receives support from the Bundeskriminalamt (BKA), which draws up a list of all Federal and Länder assistance projects.

       The objective of the BLC is to build up capacity for operational cooperation with the CCEEs and the countries of South-East Europe.

       Shortly after the Berlin Declaration, the BLC decided to set up working parties with the partner states to plan and allocate equipment assistance programmes. These working parties are chaired by the BMI-AG P4.

2. **STRUCTURAL COOPERATION**

   This type of coordination involves Finland-Denmark-Sweden, on one hand, and Sweden and France, on the other. The recipient CCEEs are the Baltic States.
2.1. Coordination amongst the Nordic States

The geographical proximity of the Baltic States and the convergence of the Nordic Union countries' cooperation to assist them are the likely origin of this coordination.

The Finnish, Danish, Swedish and Norwegian police have founded the Nordic Baltic Police Academy, which is really a training programme for police from the Baltic States devised by a Nordic working group. The Academy has no buildings or full-time training staff.

Finland also states that its bilateral cooperation programme with Estonia is itself subject to that of the Police Academy.

2.2. Coordination between Sweden and France

In order to rationalize their cooperation for the Baltic States, the Swedish and French police forces coordinate their programmes through their permanent representatives who are responsible for implementation locally. These liaison officers meet regularly to compare forthcoming programmes and projects so as to avoid duplication.

3. SPECIFIC COORDINATION

This coordination covers the implementation of common projects decided on by donor countries in a bilateral context. Two examples were given:

- joint action by France and Germany
- joint action by Germany and Sweden.

A third joint project is being studied (Germany-United Kingdom).

3.1. Presentation of the various joint projects
3.1.1. **Joint action by France and Germany**

This type of action, which began in 1995, was initially confined to a joint seminar in three CCEEs: Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic. Cooperation on these lines is likely to continue in the future.

3.1.2. **Joint action by Germany and Sweden**

A German-Swedish project is underway in Estonia. It may well be extended in future to all countries in receipt of Swedish and German cooperation.

3.1.3. **Joint action by Germany and the United Kingdom**

A possible joint German-UK project in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) is being examined.

3.2. **Arrangements for carrying out joint action**

As a rule, donor states agree on a specific project by an exchange of letters or by an agreement. Joint action is carried out under the national cooperation rules of the donors concerned.

In some countries (e.g. Germany), contractual arrangements may be negotiated between the State and the private companies involved in the joint project.
4. COORDINATION WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

This mainly involves the coordination of UNDCP action within the Task Force, and coordination of the programmes of the Nordic Baltic Police Academy with the European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control (Helsinki European United Nations Institute = HEUNI).

4.1. The Task Force

In 1993, Germany moved for a Task Force to be set up within the UNDCP to decide on a common strategy and outline plan. The Task Force comprises donor States and donor bodies in order to allocate services to assist a target country. Its mission is confined to support for the authorities responsible for combating drugs and organized crime in the CCEEs. It is currently the only forum of this kind for the exchange of experience and preparation of joint projects.

The Task Force has also managed to obtain greater involvement of the European Commission's PHARE and TACIS programmes.

The Task Force inputs data into the only international data bank on assistance projects for training and equipment, drawing up strategic profiles by country of the partner states.

Missions to coordinate enforcement services with responsibility for combating organized crime are also being extended in conjunction with the Dublin Group, as a result of a resolution taken at the meeting on 8 December 1994 at which the need for a unified approach by donors was stressed. Specifically, harmonized criteria for assistance to the CCEEs are being defined to serve as references prior to the implementation of any aid.

Close collaboration has already begun between the UNDCP, Germany and Sweden in the Baltic States. Franco-German cooperation within this forum is beginning to take shape and a German-UK project for the FYROM is being studied.
4.2. Coordination of Nordic Baltic Police Academy programmes with the European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control (HEUNI)

The Nordic Baltic Police Academy notifies HEUNI of its training project schedule; in fact the Institute also runs a data bank on technical assistance projects to the CCEEs.

5. RESULT OF THE VARIOUS TYPES OF COORDINATION

This coordination has proved particularly positive, both as regards the results achieved (rationalization of cooperation projects, demonstration of synergy of donor states) and its implementation. No difficulties have been mentioned in this connection.

Coordination is nevertheless restricted to a limited number of CCEEs, mainly the Baltic States, and – to a lesser extent – the countries of Central Europe. The Balkan states are not involved, except under the Task Force.

The authorities of the CCEEs have welcomed the various initiatives.

6. CONCLUSIONS

Despite the many structures put in place (numerous forms of coordination, various surveys of cooperation projects), rationalization of cooperation measures for the CCEEs appears to be a concern common to the majority of donors, but still appears to be limited.

Outside institutional cooperation, only a small number of donor and a small number of recipient countries are involved.

This may perhaps be explained by the absence of relevant references but also by the occasional difficulties in determining the real needs of the CCEEs.