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**LIMITE**

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ENFOPOL 168  
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**NOTE**

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From: Europol  
To: Ad hoc Working Group on Information Exchange  
Subject: Information Management Strategy (IMS)  
- Implementation of the Europol led action points of the IMS related action list

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**1. Introduction**

During the second half of 2009 the Information Management Strategy (IMS) was adopted under the Swedish Presidency of the European Council. In the Ad Hoc Group on Information Exchange an action list has been composed of concrete initiatives to implement the IMS.

Europol has committed itself to drive four action points of this list: Action point 4 (information exchange platform for law enforcement agencies); action point 5 (UMF interoperability coordination programme); action point 9 (standards and guidelines for product management) and action point 10 (target information management architecture).

This document is aimed at informing the Ad Hoc Group on Information Exchange on the progress made so far on these Europol led initiatives as input for the meeting of 22 June 2010.

## **2. Information Exchange Platform for Law Enforcement Agencies**

The information exchange platform (IXP) is designed to improve law enforcement cooperation at EU level by facilitating smooth access to relevant tools, channels, information and law enforcement partners. The scope of this initiative is limited to the specification of the programme for the establishment of the platform.

In close cooperation with ES, Europol has drafted a proposal for the business concept of the IXP. The other participants to this initiative (BG, DE, LT, SK, COM and CSG) have been invited to a meeting to discuss the proposal. Based on the discussions the business concept has been amended. It is presented to the Ad Hoc Group on Information Exchange at its meeting of 22 June 2010 (cf. doc. 11117/10 JAI 546 ENFOPOL 167 CRIMORG 120 ENFOCUSTOM 54). The Presidency intends to present it subsequently to the COSI at its meeting of 25 June 2010.

Subject to endorsement of the business concept a high-level solution design will be elaborated for the technical realisation of the IXP. The solution design will serve as the basis for the elaboration of the programme definition for the phased implementation during the coming years.

## **3. UMF Interoperability Coordination Programme**

This programme is aimed at establishing a common framework for structured information exchange. It will consist of three elements: the definition of an information model, the technical specifications for the Universal Message Format (UMF II) and a proposal for the governance structure for the maintenance and further development of the common framework for structured information exchange.

Together with DE Europol has drafted a plan for the UMF interoperability coordination, covering the objectives, scope, main actors, activities, timelines, deliverables, costs and funding. The three elements are each addressed as a project to be conducted within in the framework of this programme. (cf. doc. 11087/10 JAI 541 ENFOPOL 166 CRIMORG 119ENFOCUSTOM 52)

This programme plan has been disseminated to the other parties that have shown interest for this initiative (DE, BE, BG, ES, HU, LT, SE, UK, COM and CSG). A meeting is planned on 8 July 2010 to discuss this plan. Subject to approval the first project will be set up in accordance with the contours outlined in the programme plan.

#### **4. Standards and Guidelines for Product Management**

The standards and guidelines are aimed at aligning the way EU information management tools for law enforcement are managed. This is expected to ensure a minimum quality level, clear roles and common expectations with regard to services and evolution of such products.

Europol has created a draft framework for product management and is currently specifying a list of key aspects related to governance, stakeholder involvement and product development. The progress is shared for discussion with the parties that have shown their interest in participating in this initiative.

It is expected to have a meeting with AT, LT, COM and CSG to conclude the theoretical part of this initiative towards September/October 2010. The result will then be presented to the Working Party on Data Protection and Information Exchange. The theoretical part will be followed by a practical test, in which the standards and guidelines will be applied in practice for the product management of SIENA.

#### **5. Target Information Management Architecture**

The target information management architecture will specify how the main information management processes, workflows, actors and tools are aimed to interact for law enforcement cooperation at EU level by 2015. This can provide the basis for the assessment and prioritisation of new initiatives in the area of information management.

The drafting of the target IM architecture will build on the results action point 1, the EU information exchange model (EIXM). Awaiting further progress of the latter initiative, the work on the target IM architecture is not expected to start before September/October 2010.

#### **6. The Way Forward**

This progress report will be introduced by Europol during the meeting of the Ad Hoc Group on Information Exchange of 22 June 2010. Delegations are requested to take note.