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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE ON CRIME PROBLEMS
(CDPC)

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS
ON THE OPERATION OF EUROPEAN CONVENTIONS
ON CO-OPERATION IN CRIMINAL MATTERS
PC-OC

**Draft proposals for practical measures to facilitate the application of conventions
on international cooperation in criminal matters**

Secretariat memorandum prepared by
the Directorate General of Human Rights and Legal Affairs (DG-HL)

The PC-OC decides that practical measures to facilitate the application of conventions on international cooperation in criminal matters include:

For the PC-OC :

1. to adopt background material, which would help national representatives to advertise and disseminate information on the work of the PC-OC among practitioners;;
2. to encourage discussion on practice based issues regarding the application of relevant instruments , in particular by the use of the discussion forum on the collaborative workspace of the PC-OC website ;
3. to ensure the development of its discussion forum with a view to ensuring open, constructive and confidential exchanges of views between its users;
4. to appoint a Rapporteur and assisting members for the most important issues under discussion related to cooperation in criminal matters to animate the discussions on the forum, and to present a summary of discussions held;
5. to have discussion on practice based issues, either initiated on the forum or otherwise submitted, as a permanent item on the agenda;
6. to seek to achieve a representative overview of the approach of all delegations on the questions discussed, in order to make its feedback as concrete as possible and to approve publication.

For the members of the PC-OC: :

1. to regularly disseminate information on the PC-OC and its work to relevant practitioners in their country, and offer them a possibility to submit questions on the interpretation and application of the Conventions ;
2. to fulfil a filtering function: examine any such questions, if necessary directing the practitioners to the resources already made available by the PC-OC;
3. where they consider that a question raised is of particular interest for other delegations to share the issue with them, for example via the discussion forum or by submitting the question to the plenary
4. to ensure that the information on the PC-OC website concerning their country is up-to-date.,

For the Secretariat:

1. to ensure that the online material and electronic tools provided to the PC-OC remain operational and updated;
2. to ensure that the discussions on practical questions are reflected in documents which are easily accessible on the PC-OC website ;
3. to invite PC-OC members once a year to update the information concerning their country on the PC-OC website;
4. to encourage PC-OC members to submit relevant information on national developments concerning the implementation and application of the relevant conventions and disseminate this information on the public or restricted website;
5. .to develop the public website namely by including relevant case-law of the European Court of Human Rights and by creating archives including links to the most relevant studies and papers produced in the past 10 years.

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