

Strasbourg, 11/04/12

GOP (2012) 5

# **GROUP OF PARTIES TO THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION OF TERRORISM [CETS NO. 196]**

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## **LIST OF ITEMS DISCUSSED AND DECISIONS TAKEN**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> meeting**

Strasbourg, 11 April 2012

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Secretariat of the Terrorism Division  
Information Society and Action against Crime Directorate, DG – I

## 1. Opening of the meeting

1. The Group of Parties held its 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting in Strasbourg, France, on 11 April 2012. The meeting was opened by Mr Vladimir SALOV (Russian Federation), Chair of the Group of Parties. The list of participants appears in **Appendix I** to the present document.

2. Mr Ivan KOEDJIKOV, the Counter-Terrorism Co-ordinator of the Council of Europe and Head of the Action against Crime Department, welcomed the participants to the meeting.

## 2. Adoption of the draft agenda

3. The Group of Parties adopted the draft agenda (document GOP (2012) OJ 1) and authorised its publication. The agenda appears in **Appendix II** to the present document.

## 3. Information on the state of signatures and ratifications of the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism [CETS No. 196]

4. The Group of Parties welcomed the ratification of the Convention by Turkey on 23 March 2012.

## 4. Exchange of views and preliminary discussions on targeted provisions of the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism [CETS No. 196]

5. The Group of Parties recalled that during its 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> meetings - which took place respectively in San Sebastian (Spain) on 13 June 2011 and in Strasbourg (France) on 23 November 2011 - it discussed and prepared the draft of the Rules of Procedure of the Group of Parties to the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism. These draft Rules were sent to the Parties for adoption by silent procedure and as no objections were received, they entered into force on 2 January 2012.

6. The Group of Parties recalled that according to Rule 10.3 of the Rules of Procedure of the Group of Parties to the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism: *“For each evaluation round the Group shall elect the specific provision(s) of the Convention relating to the chosen theme in order to provide an overview of implementation of the said provision(s) by the Parties”*.<sup>1</sup>

7. In this respect, the Group of Parties discussed the first evaluation round of the Convention on the basis of a working document prepared by the Secretariat in close co-operation with the Chair of the Group of Parties (document GOP (2012) 3). The Group of Parties agreed that the first evaluation round of the Convention should be devoted to the theme **“Recruitment for terrorism”** and specifically to Article 6 of the Convention as well as other provisions of the Convention related to this issue.

8. Furthermore, the Group recalled that according to Rule 10.6 *“for each evaluation round, the Group – assisted by the Secretariat - shall prepare a Template for Parties’ use in the self-assessment of the implementation of the specific provision(s) of the Convention”*.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The Rules of Procedure of the Group of Parties to the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism [CETS No. 196] (document GOP (2012) 1).

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid*

9. In this respect, the Group of Parties considered a Preliminary Draft Template for the assessment of the implementation of Article 6 “Recruitment for terrorism”, prepared by the Secretariat in close co-operation with the Chair of the Group of Parties (document GOP (2012) 3 Appendix). It also considered written comments on this Preliminary Draft Template received from one delegation (document GOP (2012) 4).

10. On the basis of these two documents, the Group of Parties agreed on the Draft Template for the assessment of the implementation of Article 6 “Recruitment for terrorism”.

11. The Group of Parties further instructed the Secretariat to revise the document on the theme “Recruitment for terrorism” (document CODEXTER (2012) 3) as an introductory part for the Draft Template.

12. The Group of Parties then instructed the Secretariat to send the provisionally agreed Draft Template –with the revised introductory part - to the Parties for adoption by silent procedure. If there no objections by **11 May 2012**, the provisionally agreed Draft Template will be considered as finally adopted.

13. Should the Draft Template be adopted on 11 May 2012 by silent procedure, the Secretariat will circulate the final adopted Template to delegations. The Parties to the Convention will then be invited to return the completed Template to the Secretariat by **31 October 2012**.

14. The Secretariat will subsequently prepare a compilation of replies received in view of preliminary discussions on the procedure and working methods of the first evaluation round on the theme “Recruitment for terrorism”, which will take place during the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Group of Parties.

## **5. Possible synergies with other relevant international organisations**

15. The Group of Parties discussed possible synergies with other international organisations which deal with the issue of “Recruitment for terrorism”. Without undermining the restricted nature of the work of the Parties to the Convention, the Group of Parties underlined the importance of the exchange of information with relevant international organisations, such as the United Nations Security Council Counter Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), the European Union and Interpol.

16. The Group of Parties agreed to revert to this issue during its next meetings when the assessment of the implementation of Article 6 will be at a more advanced stage.

## **6. Relations with the CODEXTER: Exchange of views with the Chair of the CODEXTER**

17. The Group of the Parties took note of the fact that the agenda of the 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the CODEXTER (12-13 April 2012) includes an exchange of views on future CODEXTER activities, pertinent to the monitoring of the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism [CETS No. 196]. In this respect, the Group of Parties decided to hold a discussion on its relations with the CODEXTER within the framework of this exchange of views during the 22<sup>nd</sup> CODEXTER meeting.

## **7. Election of the Vice-Chair of the Group of Parties**

18. Following the resignation of Mr Iñigo FEBREL BENLLOCH (Spain) as the Vice-Chair of the Group of Parties, the Group of Parties was called upon to elect a new Vice-Chair to complete his term of office.

19. In accordance with its Rules of Procedure, the Group of Parties elected Ms Lucia LING KET ON (the Netherlands) as its new Vice-Chair to complete the term of office of Mr FEBREL BENLLOCH, which will expire on 31 December 2012.

## **8. Date of the next meeting**

20. The Group of Parties discussed the date of its next meeting. In accordance with the principles of sound management and taking into account the resources available, it considered the most appropriate option to be to hold its next meeting in conjunction with the next meeting of the CODEXTER. Therefore, the Group of Parties agreed that its next meeting will take place, in Strasbourg, on **14 November 2012**, the day before the 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the CODEXTER (15-16 November 2012).

21. The Secretariat was instructed to prepare, in agreement with the Chair and the Vice-Chair of the Group of Parties, the provisional draft agenda for the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Group of Parties.

## **9. Adoption of the list of items discussed and decisions taken**

22. The Group of Parties adopted this list of items discussed and decisions taken and agreed to make it public, without its Appendices.

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## APPENDICES

Please contact the Secretariat : [taskforce.terrorism@coe.int](mailto:taskforce.terrorism@coe.int)