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**From :** Council  
**To :** European Council  
**Subject :** Presidency Report on European Security and Defence Policy

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Delegations will find attached the Presidency Report on European Security and Defence Policy further to the General Affairs and External Relations Council on 16 June 2003.

## **PRESIDENCY REPORT ON ESDP**

1. In line with the mandate defined by the European Council in Copenhagen, the Presidency submits this progress report on ESDP.
2. In presenting this report, the Presidency has noted that Denmark has drawn attention to Protocol No. 5 on Denmark's position annexed to the Treaty of Amsterdam.

### **I. EU Operational Capability**

3. In the framework of the EU's Operational Capability, the EU has launched three crisis management operations. In the Western Balkans, the first EU-led civilian crisis management operation, the police mission in Bosnia-Herzegovina (EUPM) and the first EU-led military operation "CONCORDIA", in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (fYROM), with recourse to NATO's assets and capabilities, are progressing smoothly and successfully. The first EU-led autonomous military operation "ARTEMIS" has been launched, in Bunia, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), in accordance with a mandate of the United Nations Security Council.
4. The first crisis management operation, the EU Police Mission (EUPM) in Bosnia-Herzegovina (BiH) which started on 1 January 2003 contributes to the overall peace implementation in BiH as well as to the achievements of the EU overall's policy in the region, notably the Stabilisation and Association Process.
5. On 31 March the EU launched its first military crisis management operation "CONCORDIA" in the fYROM, following a request by its government. Embedded in the broader EU approach, the operation aims at contributing further to a stable secure environment to allow the fYROM government to implement the Ohrid Framework Agreement.
6. On 12 June, the EU launched the autonomous military operation "ARTEMIS", in the town of Bunia in the Ituri region of the DRC. This operation will contribute to the stabilisation of the security conditions and the improvement of the humanitarian situation in Bunia.

7. In this context, the participation of acceding States and third States in all three EU led operations is welcomed.

## **II. The military aspects of crisis management**

### **(a) EU-NATO permanent arrangements**

8. EU-NATO permanent arrangements have been successfully concluded and put into practice in the case of operation "CONCORDIA" in FYROM. EU-NATO co-operation contributes to the military operational capability of the Union and the permanent arrangements between the two organisations provide a solid framework for the strategic partnership between them in crisis management.

9. Moreover, the Council recognised the importance of the coherent and mutually reinforcing development of military capabilities in NATO and in the EU, where requirements overlap. In the framework of the relevant chapter of the Capability Development Mechanism, the EU- NATO Capability Group has started functioning.

### **(b) Development of the EU Military Capabilities**

10. The Council confirmed that the EU now has operational capability across the full range of Petersberg tasks, limited and constrained by recognised shortfalls. The limitations and/or constraints, on recognised shortfalls, are on deployment time and high risk may arise at the upper end of the spectrum of scale and intensity, in particular when conducting concurrent operations. These limitations and constraints on full achievement of the Headline and Capabilities Goals could be alleviated if the recommendations on meeting the shortfalls are followed-up. However, the impact of these limitations will need to be assessed case by case against the nature of each specific operation and its particular demands as well as envisaged contribution of required capabilities.

11. At the Capability Conference in Brussels on 19<sup>th</sup> May, Ministers noted that new contributions from Member States had reduced the number of shortfalls. Member States in order to further reduce or eliminate the remaining shortfalls will, with respect to the specific responsibilities of Ministers of Defence in this field, endeavour to provide, on a voluntary basis, more contributions

from current inventories, to commit to deliver projects and initiatives within their current programmes, and to commit to deliver enhanced, new and additional capabilities through the next phase of the European Capability Action Plan, by activating Project Groups addressing the whole spectrum of capability shortfalls. In this regard Member States are urged to contribute to this ongoing effort. The need for adequate national action and support at the highest political level is emphasised.

12. The Helsinki Force Catalogue, including the Forces Catalogue Supplement and the National and Multinational Projects and Initiatives compilation have been revised and noted by the Council, as well as the Helsinki Progress Catalogue which has been approved by the Council.

13. The Council underlined that the Union has developed the necessary conceptual framework for the conduct of EU-led military crisis management operations, including those requiring rapid response. In this context, the Union has, in principle, the ability to conduct EU military crisis management operations requiring rapid response, dependant on the political will, the ability to accelerate decision-making and on Member States' readiness to contribute rapidly the required interoperable assets and capabilities for the conduct of the operation. The operation "ARTEMIS" with France as framework nation demonstrated the political willingness and capability of the EU and its Member States to react quickly and efficiently in a crisis situation.

14. The Capability Development Mechanism has been concluded and is being implemented.

**(c) ESDP and terrorism**

15. In accordance with the Seville Declaration on the contribution of CFSP, including ESDP, in the fight against terrorism, a database of military assets and capabilities relevant to the protection of civilian populations against the effects of terrorist attacks, including chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN), on a voluntary basis has been established. Modalities, procedures and criteria for the use of these military assets and capabilities will be developed by the competent bodies, taking into account other work being done within the EU, the Civil Protection Community Mechanism and the Co-ordinating Mechanism, with a view to ensuring a comprehensive EU response. The question of military capabilities required to protect forces deployed in EU-led crisis management operations against terrorist attacks, including CBRN, has

also been addressed. Under the authority of the Secretary General/High Representative an assessment of the CBRN-terrorism threat has been prepared. In accordance with the Seville Declaration a separate report is presented.

The EU is exploring ways to further develop its cooperation with NATO in the fight against terrorism.

**(d) Third States involvement**

16. Schemes for consultations with third States in the light of EU and NATO enlargements have been reviewed.

**(e) Co-operation in the field of defence capabilities development, research, acquisition and armaments**

17. The Council welcomed proposals and initiatives including also in the context of the Convention concerning an intergovernmental agency in this field within the EU. Furthermore, the Council recognised the important role of the defence industry in delivering appropriate interoperable and cost-effective capabilities. Therefore the Council:

- called for a sufficient level of resources and the better coordination in the field of research and development,
- underlined the need to strengthen the European defence, technological and industrial base and ensure security of supply as a contribution to the development of European military capabilities,
- pointed out the need to enhance European defence industrial cooperation as Member States consider appropriate.

A seminar on defence industry took place in Athens in May 2003, with the presence of all relevant actors.

**(f) Financing of operations having military or defence implications**

18. Models for Council decisions on:

- the establishment of an operational financing mechanism to provide for the financing of an EU operation having military or defence implications;
- the establishment of pre-financing procedures for the financing of an EU operation having military or defence implications.

as well as a document on contributions by third States to the financing of operations having military or defence implications, have been adopted.

### **III. Civilian aspects of crisis management**

19. Good progress was made by the EU Police Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina in its first six months of operation. The mission has enabled the Bosnia and Herzegovina police forces to achieve notable successes in combating organised crime. Progress was made in the development of capabilities and conceptual aspects of the four priority areas of civilian crisis management, namely police, rule of law, civilian administration and civil protection. In this context, work done on the wider use of EU monitoring missions as a generic crisis management instrument deserves particular attention. In the area of civil protection, progress was made in defining the modalities for the use of the Community Mechanism to facilitate reinforced co-operation in civil protection interventions in EU crisis management referred to in Title V of the Treaty of the European Union.

20. Work has started for the establishment of an appropriate EU planning and mission support capability within the General Secretariat of the Council.

### **IV. Other aspects**

21. On common training, work to develop a co-ordinated EU Training Policy in the field of ESDP has started and a pilot orientation course took place, stressing its importance for the enhancement of a European security culture under the ESDP. Moreover, the first pilot courses of the EC project on Training for Civilian Aspects of crisis management have been launched.

22. Preparatory work for the joint EU-NATO crisis management exercise CME/CMX 03 was taken forward in the context of the EU Exercise Programme 2003-2007. EU -NATO aspects will focus on the consultation process between the EU and NATO at the strategic politico-military level, in the event of an envisaged EU led operation with recourse to NATO assets and capabilities. EU internal aspects of the exercise will concentrate on how the EU conducts strategic planning in response to a crisis with civilian and military instruments, including their co-ordination within the EU.

23. Dialogue with Mediterranean partners has been further promoted. A seminar, aimed at enhancing transparency and mutual understanding on ESDP, was organised in May by the Presidency. This seminar was an important stepping stone towards agreeing future co-operation with the Mediterranean Partners in the field of ESDP by putting forward concrete proposals.
24. Work has progressed with a view to enhance the Civil-military co-ordination Action Plan.
25. On ESDP and Space, the Council recognised the importance of the space applications and functions needed in order to enhance the EU capabilities to carry out crisis management operations. In this context, examination of space applications in the ESDP framework was taken forward. Furthermore an information paper on Space Needs for Military Crisis Management Operations has been developed and a conference on Security and Defence Aspects was held in May, which may be used as an input to the Commission Green Paper.

#### **V. Cooperation with international organisations**

26. Initiatives to further develop co-operation between the EU and the United Nations in both military as well as civilian crisis management were taken. The EU-led operations in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUPM) and in DRC/Bunia (ARTEMIS) have provided strong impetus to the already initiated efforts to develop the modalities for cooperation between EU and the UN. Staff to staff contacts with the OSCE were enhanced.

#### **VI. Conflict Prevention**

27. Work has continued in the implementation of the Programme for the prevention of violent conflicts adopted at the European Council in Göteborg. In implementing this Programme, the Greek Presidency has emphasised the regional approach and has focused mainly on the Western Balkans with a view to improving and consolidating the mechanisms and procedures for effective conflict prevention in the area. In this context, a seminar on lessons learned from conflict prevention in the Western Balkans was convened in Athens. Further to this seminar, the Presidency has submitted a food for thought paper entitled "Shaping an EU strategy for conflict prevention in the Western Balkans". A progress report on the implementation of the EU programme for the prevention of violent conflicts is presented separately.

## **VII. Mandate for the incoming Presidency**

28. On the basis of the present report the incoming Presidency, assisted by the Secretary General/High Representative, and, as appropriate, in association with the Commission, is invited to continue work on developing the European Security and Defence Policy within the General Affairs and External relations Council, paying particular attention to the following issues:

- a) To continue the development of European military capabilities, through an approach including objectives, timelines and reporting to the European Council;
- b) To address the issue of the way ahead for the development of military capabilities, by taking into account the evolution of the strategic context and of the EU political objectives in a dynamic process beyond 2003 and with respect to the specific responsibilities of Ministers of Defence within the framework of the General Affairs and External Relations Council;
- c) To advance discussion on the issue of the financing of military capabilities, based on the voluntary character of the contributions of the Member States, and taking into account that the issue of development and financing of such capabilities is under the responsibility of Member States;
- d) To promote the possible creation of an intergovernmental agency in the field of defence capabilities development, research, acquisition and armaments within the EU, taking into account the work of the Convention;
- e) To enhance the EU rapid response capability, taking into account relevant lessons learned from operation ARTEMIS;
- f) To identify, as appropriate, lessons learned from operation CONCORDIA, in all its relevant aspects, including EU-NATO cooperation in this field;
- g) To further implement the Capability Development Mechanism, including through meetings of the EU-NATO Capability Group;
- h) To develop modalities, procedures and criteria, including coordination with the Community Mechanism and the Coordinating Mechanism, for the use, at the request of Member States' concerned and on a voluntary basis, of the national military assets and capabilities database relevant to the protection of military forces and of civilian populations against the effects of terrorist attacks, including CBRN;

- i) To continue to improve civilian capabilities in the four priority areas including qualitative aspects such as rapid deployment capacity on the basis of a review of progress made in the civilian field since Feira and on identification of possible shortfalls. In this context and as a result of enlargement, the need to raise the current capabilities targets should be kept under review. Work should be commenced in order to allow full use of civilian crisis management instruments. New capabilities and instruments should be developed as need arises;
- j) To further strengthen co-operation with the United Nations on crisis management issues, working for the establishment of a structured framework and further enhance contacts with OSCE and Council of Europe;
- k) To continue the implementation of the European Programme for the prevention of violent conflicts;
- l) To foster the development of a European security culture under ESDP, through agreement on a co-ordinated EU Training Policy in the field of ESDP, encompassing both civilian and military dimensions;
- m) To continue work on the Action Plan for strengthening civil-military co-ordination (CMCO);
- n) To continue to examine space applications in the ESDP framework;
- o) To strengthen further dialogue and co-operation with Mediterranean partners in the field of crisis management in accordance with document on "Dialogue and Co-operation on ESDP, between the EU and Mediterranean Partners".