

Chairman's Summary of the Outcomes of the G8 Justice and Home Affairs Ministerial Meeting

(Moscow, 15-16 June 2006)

At their meeting in Moscow on 15-16 June 2006 the G8 Justice and Home Affairs Ministers considered a wide range of issues relating to combating terrorism and transnational crime. Special emphasis was put on the need to continue to enhance the G8 cooperation in combating terrorism; improving legal tools, ways and methods of interaction including in the sphere of legal assistance in criminal cases; combating cyber-crime and terrorist misuse of the Internet and related technologies; countering illegal migration, drug trafficking and terrorism financing.

Conclusions

Terrorism

1. Reiterating their resolute condemnation of all acts of terrorism irrespective of their motivation, whenever and by whomsoever committed as one of the most serious threats to peace, security, law and order the Ministers confirmed their determination to increase the G8 effort in combating this scourge.

2. In this context the Ministers approved a number of documents aimed at enhancing anti-terrorism security, including:

- The G8 Principles on International Cooperation in Preventing and Suppressing the Commission, Support and Incitement of Terrorist Acts;
- Recommendations on Subway and Railway Anti-Terrorism Protection;
- Basic Principles of the G8 States in Anti-Terrorist Protection of Subways and Railway Transport (Principles of Best Practice);
- Best Practices on the Use of Passenger Data for Border Management and Law Enforcement Purposes;
- Best Practices on Methodologies, Technologies and Systems for Sharing. Analyzing and Evaluating Cargo Data in Advance of Shipment.

The Ministers will also encourage the adherence to these principles and recommendations in the areas outside the G8 countries, as best practices in this field. Ministers also supported further development of counter-measures against potential terrorist attacks using hazardous agents on subways and rail transport.

3. The Ministers recognized the necessity to continue the analysis of factors, which might lead to the radicalization and recruitment of terrorists as well as the elaboration of measures to counter this phenomenon. They expressed favor towards developing an efficient set of preventive measures to counter terrorist propaganda and radicalization, terrorist recruiting and training, with special regard to specific environments such as prisons.

4. The Ministers recognized the significance of active involvement of the private

sector in counter- terrorism and welcomed in this regard the Global Forum on Partnerships between States and Businesses in Combating Terrorism to be held in Moscow in November this year.

5. The Ministers reaffirmed that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security, as well as to the enjoyment of human rights, especially, to the right to life when it is jeopardized by terrorists. They emphasized that it is the imperative for states to combat terrorism by all means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee, and humanitarian law.

Legal tools to combat terrorism and transnational crime

1. The Ministers agreed to continue to improve cooperation in the matters of extradition and mutual legal assistance in cases related to terrorism and transnational organized crimes, by, inter alia, strictly complying with the obligations under relevant universal international instruments, i.e., the international counter- terrorism conventions and protocols, related UN Security Council resolutions and the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols. Particular attention should be given to ensure that, consistent with the requirements of due process, requests relating to terrorists are given high priority in order to bring them to justice and hold them responsible and that delays in legal proceedings are as short as possible. The Ministers agreed on the importance of all states becoming party to and fully implementing those universal conventions and protocols that address and create a legal basis to combat terrorism and other transnational crime. The Ministers stressed the importance of G8 Member State leadership in ratifying and implementing these instruments. Ministers reaffirmed the principles enshrined in UNSCR 1373 calling for States to ensure, in conformity with international law, that refugee status is not abused by the perpetrators, organizers or facilitators of terrorist acts, and that claims of political motivation are not recognized as grounds for refusing requests for the extradition of alleged terrorists.

2. The Ministers noted the importance of utilizing DNA evidence in investigation and prosecution of terrorism and other crimes, and urged their experts to continue to examine options to improve the exchange of such data.

3. The Ministers approved the documents prepared by G8 experts on "G8 Best Practice for Effective International Cooperation to Combat International Terrorism" and highly appreciated "the G8 Handbook on Compensation for Victims of Terrorism".

4. The Ministers were invited to take part in the High-level conference of the ministries of justice and home affairs "The European Cooperation in the Criminal Law Field" to be held in Moscow on 9-10 November 2006 during Russia's presidency in

the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

Cyber-Crime and Terrorist Use of the Internet

1. Having noted the growth in the rate of IT-crime, the Ministers stressed the necessity of efficient counter-measures and, in particular, requested the experts:

- to continue to develop measures to protect and respond to attacks on information systems, including attacks caused by malicious code, and to continue to address issues relating to criminal misuse of information systems such as identity theft, illegal payment fraud, distribution of counterfeit products and phishing;

- to continue their work in forging public/private partnerships with Internet Service Providers, the private sector, and technical experts to enhance the fight against IT crime;

- to continue to expand and strengthen the G8 24/7 High Tech Crime point of contact network, now numbering 43 countries and law enforcement entities from around the world.

2. Recognizing the increased threat posed by terrorist misuse of the Internet and the challenge posed by differing legal systems among the G8 countries, the Ministers asked their experts to consider proposals and develop a strategy to combat terrorist misuse of the Internet to communicate, plan, support and recruit terrorists, including consideration of how best to cooperate and coordinate with the private sector in this area, and report on their progress next year.

3. The Ministers pointed out the importance of resource and operational support by the G8 States to the Interpol's international database on child sexual exploitation on the Internet. They also encouraged the private sector input in the realization of this project.

4. The Ministers noted the success of the International Cyber-Crime and Cyber-Terrorism Practical Conference under the Russian Presidency, held in Moscow on April 19-20, 2006 and welcomed the Italian initiative to hold an international training conference of the G8 24/7 High Tech Point of Contact network on combating IT crimes to be held this autumn in Rome.

Illegal migration

1. Recalling the entry into force of the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and supplementing Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, the Ministers invited all states to enhance cooperation based on these universal legal instruments.

2. The Ministers stressed the importance of cooperation with Interpol as well as Europol to enhance the efficiency of cooperation in the fight against smuggling

and human trafficking and the use of the Interpol Lost, Stolen and Invalid Passports Database. They also called for the development of increased interaction with relevant UN institutions, as well as the International Organization for Migration, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Maritime Organization, and the Europol in combating illegal migration.

3. Having noted the successful start of the work on ensuring interoperability of new generation travel document identification systems and reciprocal readout by the G8 countries, the Ministers stressed the importance of sharing best practices in the production and processing of documents containing biometric data as one of the priorities.

4. The Ministers highly appreciated the experts' work on "Best Practice with Respect to the Activities of Document Advisers", "Best Practice for the Processing of Travelers Who Present Lost or Stolen Travel Documents". Ministers also welcomed progress in implementing the ongoing Roma-Lyon Group project to improve coordination of Member knowledge of and strategies to combat Trafficking in Persons, a modern form of slavery.

Drug Trafficking

1. Ministers noted the grave threat that the drugs trade posed to the peaceful reconstruction of Afghanistan and that Afghan sourced opiates continued to make up almost 90% of global supply. In recognition of the scale of the problem, they reaffirmed the need for G8 Members to increase and sustain assistance in support of the Government of Afghanistan's counter narcotics campaign and of the efforts of countries on the drug trafficking routes.

2. Ministers welcomed the publication of Afghanistan's updated National Drug Control Strategy as a balanced and comprehensive approach to tackling the drug problem. They agreed that G8 support should be channeled into the four national priorities identified in the strategy (targeting the trafficker and the trade; strengthening rural livelihoods; reducing domestic demand; and building effective CN institutions), including where appropriate through contributions to the Government of Afghanistan's Counter Narcotics Trust Fund. They agreed that officials should continue to take this work forward within the Lyon/Roma Group.

3. Ministers' welcomed the Presidency's initiative to hold an international Ministerial conference on Afghan drug trafficking with the G8 Foreign Ministers participation (Paris II Moscow I). They noted in particular the importance of stepping up activity in the field of precursor control given evidence to suggest that an increasing amount of drug processing is being carried out in Afghanistan itself. They also recognized the need to strengthen co-operation between Afghanistan and its neighbors to achieve modern and effective border management systems as already announced on the occasion of the Doha II Conference on Border Control (27-28 February 2006).

The Ministers took note of the Russian offer of training counter-narcotics officers of third countries, including those from Afghanistan and the Central Asia, at the A.N. Sergeyev International Interdisciplinary Training Center for Drug Fighting Units' Officers Center.

Other Activities

On 15 June 2006 the participants of the meeting visited the Russian Advanced Training Institute for the Officers of the Ministry of the Interior of the Russian Federation to discuss issues of anti-terrorist protection of subways and anti-terrorist aviation security.

The Ministers visited the Ministry's aviation security training complex and visited the A.N. Sergeyev International Interdisciplinary Training Center for Drug Fighting Units' Officers.