To: SONNENSCHEIN Richard (JUST)
Cc: 

Subject: EPPO College decision seeking from EU budgetary authority 2023 additional investment in Security - EPPO
Attachments: 2023.031 College Decision seeking additional resources to enhance EPPO security response in 2023.pdf

Dear Richard,

As a follow up of my email below, and as anticipated in our meeting earlier this week, I am providing you now formally the College of the EPPO decision seeking clearance and revenue for additional investment in 2023 (frontloading to 2023 part of our security investment request for 2024).

We stand ready to provide, in a controlled information access logic seen the sensitivity (and especially the vulnerability that can result from exposing in uncontrolled manners the limits to the current security response), the specific elements, beyond the broad rational below, of our needs estimate.

Cordialement

Olivier

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From: RAMSAYER Olivier (JUST-EXT)
Sent: Tuesday, May 30, 2023 7:51 PM
To: SONNENSCHEIN Richard (JUST)
Subject: Rational for additional Investment in Security - EPPO

Dear Colleagues,

Many thanks for the engagement in today's meeting. I understand a brief rational behind EPPO's intention to seek additional resources in 2023 already to enhance its security response would be helpful so I am attaching the rational the College has considered for such request.

It remains at high level as we cannot expose the soft points of EPPO security environment in non-restricted context. Please forward the information if I miss a participant.

Cordialement

Olivier

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As a component of the EU public administration, the EPPO's security threats landscape has been broadly assumed during its inception phase, in absence of more specific elements, as one similar to the one applying to other EU institutions whether these operate in Luxembourg or in Member States. EPPO decentralised offices in Member States are operating in premises put at their disposal by national authorities. The level of protection these buildings offer reflects the diverse approaches to security each national justice system is following and do not warrant a coherent and proportional to the EPPO specific threats. It is to be noted that some of EPPO decentralised premises, are called to store (and therefore are expected to offer adequate protection) criminal evidences for which preservation and integrity are paramount to successfully bringing criminals to justice.

As the EPPO demonstrated its effectiveness against specialised organised criminalities targeting the EU budget, the mismatch between the assumption of an EPPO (at central and decentralised levels) operating under a security threats landscape of a plain generic nature and the observed effective threats grew and this growing mismatch affects both digital and physical security dimensions. This degradation is reflected among others by...
If one of these risks were to materialise, it could affect significantly and durably the capacity of EPPO to deliver its mission, its credibility and/or affect significantly the EU reputation.

At this point, the 2 security risks mentioned above are considered significantly beyond what the EPPO is able to mitigate within the means the budgetary authority has put at its disposal including through leveraging national capacity. This negative evolution of EPPO security risk universe is deepened by the confrontational international geostrategic context which induces growing likelihood (as observed by CERT-EU for EU institutions) that espionage or cyber threats target EPPO case-related information.

The EPPO budget currently do not offer proportional human and financial resources which can be earmarked to the various dimension of security. The EPPO is expected to seek from the European Union Budget Authority an increase in 2023 of the capacity at its disposal to ensure a better coverage and risks mitigation of cyber and physical security of its different assets.