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NOTE

From:	The Luxembourg delegation
To:	Law Enforcement Working Party
No. prev. doc.:	8862/14
Subject:	Proposal for a Joint Police Operation (JPO) LUXCAR

DOCUMENT PARTIALLY ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC (18.05.2015)

Delegations will find below a proposal for a Joint Police Operation LUXCAR prepared on the basis of the guidelines set out in the Guide for Joint Police Operations (JPOs) (16825/10 ENFOPOL 343 JAI 995 COSI 76).

The LEWP is invited to approve this proposal.

1. Introduction

The experience of Member States' law enforcement authorities in combating vehicle crime shows that this type of crime has an international dimension and tends to be committed by organised criminal groups. The possibility of travelling inside the EU with no border controls enables criminal groups to transport stolen vehicles from one Member State to another, as well as to third countries, with minimum risk. Financial damage to EU citizens, entities and state budgets as a result of this phenomenon is increasing dramatically.

The results of previous JPOs targeting vehicle crime¹ conclusively proved that close coordination among Member States' law enforcement authorities can be an effective tool in the fight against vehicle crime, as well as other related crimes, and helps to prevent such crime.

2. Justification and description of JPO LUXCAR

Based on the recommendations of previous JPOs, and taking into account the fruitful discussions during the meetings of the national contact points for tackling cross-border vehicle crime (CARPOL), held in Rome (Italy) on 27-28 November 2014 and in Riga (Latvia) on 19-20 March 2015, the Luxembourg delegation as incoming Presidency proposes to conduct a **JPO LUXCAR**, which would target vehicle crime and focus on the EU territory and its external borders, aiming at including horizontal aspects covering several crime areas connected to EU crime priorities. **DELETED**

Taking into account the experience and recommendations of previous JPOs, the Luxembourg delegation invites all Member States' law enforcement authorities as well as EU agencies and international organisations to participate in JPO LUXCAR **DELETED**. The results of JPO LUXCAR will be compiled and presented during a CARPOL meeting at the end of November 2015 at Europol. They will be submitted to the LEWP in December 2015.

¹ JPO CYCAR (17543/12) carried out in 2012, JPO LITCAR (7391/14) carried out in 2013 and JPO ITACAR (8862/14) carried out in 2014

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Participating countries and agencies:

23 Member States took part in JPO CYCAR, 25 in JPO LITCAR and 28 (+ Switzerland) in JPO ITACAR. The increasing number of MS involved in JPOs shows the need for such operations as well as the awareness of the scale of the problem of vehicle crime within the EU.

According to the recent recommendation of JPO ITACAR² and JPO LITCAR³, all MS as well as European and international agencies, organisations and networks (such as Europol, Interpol, Frontex, TISPOL) should be encouraged to participate in such operations. Therefore:

- all MS are invited to participate in JPO LUXCAR and to conduct small-scale operations nationally;
- Europol, Frontex and Interpol are invited to contribute to this operation by helping to coordinate it and by providing their expertise and knowledge;
- TISPOL is invited to contribute to JPO LUXCAR by helping to use its network of traffic police forces effectively.

*Member States are invited to inform the contact point mentioned below of their intention to participate in this JPO by **29 May 2015**.*

² See 8862/14.

³ See 7391/14.

Procedures and coordination arrangements for JPO LUXCAR will remain the same as for JPO ITACAR.

3. Estimated costs of JPO LUXCAR

As with previous JPOs, the costs are to be covered by participating Member States, EU agencies and international organisations.

4. Reporting procedures

The special reporting form will be distributed to participating prior to the operation. After the operation, Member States who have participated in the JPO should complete it and return it to the JPO LUXCAR contact point approximately within three weeks after the JPO. The Luxembourg delegation will collect and process the forms and, after analysing the reports, will set out the results of the JPO, which will be presented to CARPOL during its meeting in The Hague on Europol's premises by the end of November 2015. The final report of JPO LUXCAR will also be presented to the LEWP in December 2015.

5. Luxembourg Contact Point for JPO LUXCAR

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