



CONTENTS

1. **Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee on Private Security working group: meeting 6 September 2006**
 2. **EU experts to discuss secret air security report**
-

1. Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee on Private Security working group: meeting 6 September 2006

The Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee on Private Security working group has its third meeting for 2006 on 6 September 2006. The meeting takes place in the Borschette Centre in Brussels (European Commission) from 11u30 to 16u30. The agenda for the meeting is the following:

1. Rules of procedure of the Committee
2. Short report on the CIT subgroup activities
3. Results of the CIT study in Eastern Countries
4. Health and Safety:
5. Training toolkit on airport security, mobile patrolling and alarm response centres: presentation of the work
6. Best value project: round tables in four countries
7. Follow-up of the joint documents adopted by the social partners
8. First debate on the 2007 working programme
9. Miscellaneous

2. EU experts to discuss secret air security report

On Wednesday 6 September 2006, European aviation experts will discuss a classified assessment from EU intelligence agencies on security at Europe's airports.

The report has been compiled, after an August air terror alert, by Europe's secret services under the umbrella of the EU's Brussels Situation Centre and is classified under military secrecy rules. The document gives an analysis, by Europe's top counter-terrorism officials, to sweeping extra airport security measures introduced after British police foiled alleged bomb plots to attack transatlantic flights on August 10.

European commission officials, party to the report, indicate that a new security regime is to be proposed for airports across Europe. But terror risk assessments and some airport measures will remain classified on security grounds, say the sources.

Emergency bans on hand luggage and liquids are unlikely in the long-term survive beyond the critical, uncertain period as police smashed an alleged bomb-making operation in London three weeks ago. Commission officials stress that as police and security agencies get to grips with the threat and possible new risks posed by liquid explosives, action must be based on facts. "Proportionate measures have to be proposed and based on accurate scientific data. We must ask what is the risk of someone bringing down a plane," said the official.

The European Commission is urging the EU to agree to common Europe-wide airport security measures, a regime that would not prevent extra emergency action should there be policing developments.

On Monday 4 September 2006, the European Commission tabled new proposals seeking to coordinate the development of detection technologies between industry and law enforcement agencies. Brussels is hosting a October 9 2006 conference on boosting the security of commercial products that can be used as explosive or bomb-making ingredients. The European Commission is moving towards giving all EU manufactured explosive components a unique chemical fingerprint. The signature would allow the police to trace and follow the trail after bomb attacks or seizure of explosives.

European Union justice commissioner Franco Frattini is also set to urge a new EU definition of terrorism including the dissemination of bomb-making expertise. The German EU presidency in 2007 is already examining proposals to shut down or monitor Internet sites suspected of providing technology tips to would-be terrorists. Other technologies under development will scan air passengers to ensure travellers have not become infected by deadly viruses either as result of new flu pandemics or bio-terror attacks.

(Source: *Eupolitics.com* – 5 September 2006)

For more information concerning these topics, please contact the Secretariat-General by phone (+32 2 462 07 73) or e-mail (apeg-bvbo@i-b-s.be or ml@i-b-s.be).
For all general information on CoESS, please consult the CoESS website (www.coess.org).

Due to the CoESS General Meetings in Stockholm, which will take place on 14 and 15 September 2006, there will be no newflash next week.