

DECISION 07/2014/GB
OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE EUROPEAN POLICE COLLEGE
ESTABLISHING THE ANALYSIS AND ASSESSMENT
OF THE AUTHORISING OFFICER'S 2013 ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT

Adopted by the Governing Board

on 19 May 2014

THE CEPOL GOVERNING BOARD,

Having regard to Council Decision 2005/681/JHA¹, and in particular Article 10(9)(e) thereof;

Having regard to Decision 01/2014/GB of the Governing Board of the European Police College (CEPOL) adopting the Financial Regulation and repealing decision 28/2011/GB, and in particular Article 47 thereof;

Having regard to the Authorising Officer’s Annual Activity Report 2013;

HAS ADOPTED the Analysis and Assessment of the Authorising Officer’s Annual Activity Report 2013, as set out in the Annex to this decision.

Done in Athens, 19 May 2014

For the Governing Board

*Vasilios Kontogiannis
Chair of the Governing Board*

ANNEX:

Analysis and Assessment of the Authorising Officer’s Annual Activity Report for the
Financial Year 2013

¹ OJ L 256, 1.10.2005, p. 63.

Annex

ANALYSIS AND ASSESSMENT OF THE AUTHORISING OFFICER’S ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2013

The Governing Board takes note of the Authorising Officer’s Annual Activity Report for the financial year 2013, in accordance with Article 47 of the Financial Regulation applicable to CEPOL.

The Governing Board is of the opinion that the Authorising Officer’s Report represents a comprehensive and transparent account of CEPOL activities and results during the year.

The report covers well the main activities of CEPOL in 2013, clearly identifies the risks associated with CEPOL operations, duly reports on the use made of the resources provided and indicates the efficiency and effectiveness of the internal control system.

The Governing Board recognises the progress made by CEPOL and the achieved results in 2013 and notes in particular that:

- the agency successfully delivered its work programme, implementing 103 training activities against a planned 98 activities;
- importantly, the agency extended the reach of its training, achieving the highest level of participation to date (8,251 participants; up from 6,019 in 2012), seeing increased numbers taking part in residential courses, webinars and the European Police Exchange Programme;
- the decision made in 2013 to fully fund more spaces on residential courses gave more police officers the opportunity to benefit from a CEPOL activity and this practice will continue in 2014;
- the agency’s use of technology has enhanced its ability to offer comprehensive online learning opportunities to complement residential courses, meaning more law enforcement officers can now choose how and when to learn;
- in 2013, general participant satisfaction reached 94%, up from 92% in 2012 ;
- additional evidence of the agency’s enhanced efficiency is the further reduction in the unit price of its training. In 2013, CEPOL delivered training to 37% more participants than in 2012 with an operating budget that was 15% smaller than in 2012;
- through a thorough consultation process, CEPOL created a catalogue of activities that closely served the priorities identified in the EU Policy Cycle for Serious and

Organised Crime (Policy Cycle), and also satisfied operational needs of the Member States;

- the result of continuous efforts to streamline governance have resulted in governance costs remaining at under EUR 100,000;
- following the disbanding of old working groups in 2012, six new working groups started work under the Governing Board in 2013. All of these working groups had a clear action plan and expected deliverables. Four of the groups finished their work by the end of the year, while two groups will continue working in 2014. The Governing Board also created a new working group for developing a short-term strategy for the transition of CEPOL, in view of the expected changes in the agency’s operating environment;
- all recommendations from the five year evaluation of the agency that were within CEPOL’s remit, were implemented.

The Governing Board takes note that the identified risks were successfully managed with mitigation actions and that the risks triggered by the future role and relocation of the agency remains a continuous challenge for the CEPOL management to cope with.

The Governing Board positively notes that all audit recommendations from the Internal Audit Service’s audits from the previous years have been implemented and there were no critical findings with respect to the legality or regularity of transactions in the last year.

The Governing Board welcomes that in 2013, CEPOL conducted its first stakeholder satisfaction survey. It also takes note that the aggregate satisfaction score amongst stakeholders was 71% and the findings of the survey will be used to identify opportunities to improve stakeholder relations and inform future strategy.

The Governing Board considers that CEPOL has effectively delivered the expected products and services in accordance with the Work Programme 2013.

The information provided in the Authorising Officer’s report gives the Governing Board reasonable assurance that the resources available to CEPOL in 2013 were used for their intended purpose and in accordance with the principles of sound financial management. Furthermore, the control procedures in place give necessary guarantees concerning the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions.