

Decision of the Management Board 26/2017/MB

**On approving a pilot phase on CEPOL Knowledge Centres
Adopted by the Management Board**

on 29 September 2017

THE MANAGEMENT BOARD,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2015/2219 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2015 on the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL) and replacing and repealing Council Decision 2005/681/JHA¹, and in particular Articles 9(1) and 19 thereof,

Having regard to the Decision 18/2016/GB establishing a Working Group on Centres of Excellence,

Whereas:

- (1) The overall objective of the Working Group, as established by the Decision 18/2016/GB, was to develop recommendations for the establishment of and conditions/working methods for the creation of Centres of Excellence.
- (2) The Working Group concluded its work in April 2017 and presented its recommendations in the context of the second Management Board meeting that took place in Malta on 9-10 May 2017.
- (3) The Working Group recommends abandoning the use of the term 'Centres of Excellence' and use instead the term 'CEPOL Knowledge Centres' (hereinafter 'CKC').
- (4) The Working Group defines 'CKC' as a virtual knowledge and expertise hub that on the basis of identified and assessed training needs provides innovative learning options for law enforcement officials for a specific thematic area, operating in principle on the basis of consortia formed among the Framework Partners of CEPOL.
- (5) For each consortium, the Working Group proposes the establishment of a Steering Board (hereinafter 'SB') consisting of representatives of the members of the consortium, CEPOL and other stakeholders (if relevant). The key task of the SB will be to coordinate the quality assessment, the planning and the implementation of the activities.
- (6) According to the recommendations of the Working Group, CEPOL will award grants to the formed consortia for implementation of activities which are grouped under thematic areas.
- (7) The Working Group analysed the planning of CEPOL for 2017 and 2018 to identify thematic areas and proposes the following eight thematic areas:

¹ OJ L319, 4.12.2015, p.1.

'Serious and Organised Crime', 'Cybercrime', 'Counter Terrorism', 'Illegal Migration and Trafficking in Human Beings', 'Methods and Tools for International Cooperation', 'Support to EU Police Missions²', 'Public order', 'Key Competences with European Dimension'. For each thematic area, the Working Group has further identified an indicative division of implementation between CEPOL and CKCs.

(8) The Working Group proposes to implement the concept of CKCs in a stepwise manner, starting first with a pilot phase in relation to the award of grants to consortia for the implementation of two thematic areas, namely the thematic area of 'EU CSDP missions' and the thematic area of 'Counter Terrorism'. The time span of the pilot is meant to cover the years 2018 and 2019.

(9) The Management Board, during the Management Board meeting that took place in Malta on 9-10 May 2017, discussed the recommendations of the Working Group and agreed with the launching of a pilot phase, as proposed by the Working Group.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Sole Article

A pilot phase of award of grants by CEPOL to Framework Partnerships with Multiple Beneficiaries - consortia - for the implementation of the thematic area of 'EU CSDP missions' and the thematic area of 'Counter Terrorism' in the course of 2018 and 2019 is hereby approved.

CEPOL Executive Director is tasked to launch the pilot phase.

The present Decision shall take effect upon the date of its adoption.

Done at Vienna, 3 October 2017

For the Management Board

< Signature on file >

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Mr Norbert Leitner
Chair of the Management Board

² This title refers to Police Missions of the European Union that operate as part of the Common Security Defence Policy of the European Union.