

Implementation Group

Doc.: IG/2012/002 Date: 15 March 2012 Origin: SECRETARIAT

Meeting of the Implementation Group for the European initiative for the exchange of young officers (inspired by Erasmus)

on 15 February 2012, 15:00 hrs

(Brussels, Belgian Royal Military Academy, Rue Hobbema 8 - 1000 Brussels)

Draft Minutes

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted unanimously

2. Common Module CSDP Olympiad

The Common Module CSDP Olympiad will take place from 23 March to 05 October 2012 and will consist of three phases:

- IDL preparation, consisting of AKUs 1 to 4, but also including studying the content of the Emilyo platform.
- Writing of a paper, of 3000 words approximately (10 pages). The papers will be graded by a number of volunteers. Additional volunteers to grade the papers should contact the Secretariat as soon as possible. The Members of the IG are requested to send proposals for topics to the Secretariat before 16 March CoB. All papers will be put together in a single publication.
- A residential phase from 03 to 05 October in Paphos, CY. During this phase, the best papers will be orally presented to all participants. The participants themselves will be asked to select the best among the presented papers. The second part of the competition will consist of a series of multiple choice questions answered per team. The winning team and the author of the best paper will proceed to the final stage of the competition, consisting of another multiple choice quiz, but now individually.

The Member of the Group are invited to send a minimum of 5 multiple-choice questions (per Member State represented in the IG), each with 4 possible answers of which only one is correct, to the Secretariat before 30 April 2012 CoB

3. Exchange Opportunities - Newsletter

Mr Paile presented the new edition of the Newsletter., which was approved by the Group. For future editions, those training institutes who offer exchange opportunities are kindly requested to announce the event sufficiently long in advance with an indication of the timeframe when the course will take place. This should facilitate the planning process for the sending parties. Moreover, the information should be as complete as possible, including amongst other things a correct indication of the point of contact in the organising institute.

4. Evaluation of the Common Modules on CSDP

The Group adopted the external evaluation report of the two Common Modules on CSDP conducted in Austria in October 2011.

For future common modules, the cooperation of three training institutions from different Member States could be considered in order to organise a two week-long intensive programme. Under certain conditions, such intensive programmes could potentially be eligible for funding through the ERASMUS Intensive Programmes (Ref: http://ec.europa.eu/education/erasmus/doc900_en.htm).

The database of lecturers for the common modules will be updated and distributed to all.

5. Annual Report - Adoption

The Group finalised the Annual Report with the amendments made during the meeting. The Report will be forwarded to the Steering for adoption.

6. Line of Development 2 - State of Play

The members of the subgroup are currently trying to structure the 14 replies they received on the question sent out last year. They will discuss their first results in a meeting of the subgroup in late March.

It was suggested that the members of the subgroup also make contact with the relevant services of the Commission to learn more about the experience of other expert panels, developing vocational qualification frameworks.

7. Line of Development 8 – State of Play and Perspectives

The subgroup will examine the possibility to develop a common module on gender, based on the ES/NL initiative for a ESDC Course on Gender aspects in CSDP operations.

Additional suggestions for new topics are welcome and can be sent to the Chairperson of the subgroup.

8. AOB

Under this agenda item, the Poland informed about an initiative to organise a 'European Officers Cadet ball in Wroclaw from 15 to 17 November. Although this Ball does not fit in to the regular common modules of the Initiative, it was welcomed by the group as it enhance the social and cultural exchanges; some suggestions to make it more attractive for participants were also offered.

Austria announced that they will organise a 3 week Alpine Training course for Internationals. More details can be found in the Newsletter. Austria would welcome if an indication of the number of participants could be sent early on, even befre the names of the participants are known.

They also gave some information on a Symposium on CSDP culture that will take place in the last week of September. approximately 70 places can be made availbalefor international participation.