



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 23 June 2004**

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**NOTE**

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from : Secretariat

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Subject : Statement by the European Council on criminal sanctions

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Delegations will find in the annex the above mentioned declaration, adopted by the European Council on 17/18 June 2004.

**DECLARATION BY THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL  
ON CRIMINAL SANCTIONS**

The European Council welcomes the recent adoption by the United Nations Security Council of the Resolution 1540 (2004) on Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction. In light of the Resolution, which urges all states to take and enforce effective measures to prevent the proliferation of WMD and their means of delivery, including by establishing appropriate controls over related materials, and including also the imposition of appropriate sanctions for the violation of such measures, the European Council recalls the commitment expressed by Member States in the European Strategy against the proliferation of WMD adopted on 12 December 2003, to adopt common policies related to criminal sanctions for illegal export, brokering and smuggling of WMD-related material.

To that end, the European Council invites the relevant Council bodies to review the appropriate political and legal instruments, including possible actions within the framework of Justice and Home Affairs, that would further the adoption of concrete steps towards this objective.

The Council bodies should consider in particular the measures to be taken in order to more effectively prevent the spread of sensitive goods and technologies. They should also evaluate the existing sanctions under current Member States' legislation or regulations and, if necessary, make recommendations for their convergence.

The European Council invites the Council to report on this issue in advance of its December meeting.

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