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NOTE

From : Secretariat
to : Delegations

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Subject : Progress Report on the implementation of Chapter III of the EU Strategy against the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction

1. Following co-ordination between the Office of the Personal Representative for non-proliferation of WMD and the Commission, the following 6-monthly Progress Report has been established. Initiatives taken or suggested are in bold in the text below, under the headings of the measures contained in chapter III of the European Strategy against the proliferation of WMD adopted on 12 December 2003 by the European Council.

The Personal Representative, in consultation with the Commission, is of the opinion that the List of Priorities, which was endorsed by the External Relations Council in December 2004, (Doc. 15246/04), does not need to be updated at this stage. The Personal Representative could present an update towards the end of 2005 in parallel with the next Progress Report for discussion by the competent Council bodies. This could also provide the basis for a review of the WMD Strategy.

2. On the implementation of chapter III of the Strategy

A) *Rendering multilateralism more effective by acting resolutely against proliferators.*

1) *Working for the universalisation and when necessary strengthening of the main treaties, agreements and verification arrangements on disarmament and non-proliferation.*

- Carrying out diplomatic action to promote the universalisation and reinforcement of multilateral agreements, in implementation of Council Common Position 2003/805/CFSP of 17 November 2003:

= **Efforts to continue to carry out démarches have taken place in order to promote the early entry into force of the CTBT, as well as the universalisation of the CWC, the BTWC, the Comprehensive Safeguard Agreement, the Additional Protocol and the HCoC.**

= **With a view to the 2005 NPT Review Conference, the Council adopted, on 25 April 2005, the Council Common Position CFSP/0329/05 in an effort to undertake a balanced approach aiming at preserving the three pillars of the NPT (non-proliferation, disarmament and peaceful uses). The Common Position calls, inter alia, for efforts to be undertaken towards the universalisation of the NPT and the reinforcement of the IAEA safeguards system. The EU has also been active during the Conference concerning possible measures to make withdrawal from the NPT more difficult and has highlighted the importance of the co-operative threat reduction initiative, the Global Partnership Initiative. The EU Common Position has been reflected in various working documents during the 2005 NPT review Conference, and has been transmitted to the President of the Conference and to the Chairs of the respective Main Committees.**

= **The WMD Strategy and its provisions are highlighted in the common statements which are made by the Presidency on behalf of the EU in relevant fora, in particular at the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva, and at meetings of States Parties of relevant treaties. These statements have emphasised the EU's commitment to the multilateral system, the importance of full compliance with existing treaty obligations and the willingness of the EU to work to strengthen these treaties where necessary.**

2) *Fostering the role of the UN Security Council, and enhancing expertise in meeting the challenge of proliferation.*

- Working inter alia to enable the Security Council to benefit from independent expertise and a pool of readily available competence in order to carry out the verification of proliferating activities that are a potential threat to international peace and security. The EU will consider how the unique verification and inspection experience of UNMOVIC could be retained and utilised, for example by setting up a roster of experts.

= **Démarches to promote the submission of reports under UNSC 1540 have been carried out.**

= **The discussion on the issue of an international inspection and verification capability to be established within the UN is continuing.**

3) *Enhancing political, financial and technical support for verification regimes*

- *Now that all EU Member States have ratified the IAEA Additional Protocol, the EU will redouble its efforts to promote their conclusions by third States.*

= **The first updates of the declarations in accordance with Article 2 of the Additional Protocol were submitted by Member States and Euratom to the IAEA during the month of May 2005.**

= **The EU has emphasised the importance of the universalisation of the Additional Protocol in its troika meetings with third countries. Démarches, based on terms of reference prepared by CONOP, have been carried out in a global context. The results of the démarches are being shared with the IAEA Secretariat.**

= **The Council Common Position CFSP/0329/05 calls for the Additional Protocol to be established as the new verification standard.**

- Fostering measures aimed at ensuring that any possible misuse of civilian programmes for military purposes will be effectively excluded.

= **In the Common Position relating to the NPT Review Conference, the EU decided to promote an early start of the examination of the report on multilateral approaches to the nuclear fuel cycle prepared by the advisory experts group established by the IAEA Director General (INFCIRC/640 of February 2005).**

- Releasing financial resources to support specific projects conducted by multilateral institutions (inter alia. IAEA, CTBTO Preparatory Commission and OPCW) which could assist in fulfilling our objectives.
- = **The Joint Action on support for OPCW activities in the framework of the implementation of the EU WMD Strategy, adopted by the GAERC of 22 November 2004, is currently being implemented. This Joint Action aims at supporting the universalisation of the CWC and, in particular, at promoting the accession to the CWC by States not Party (signatory States as well as non-Signatory States) and at supporting the implementation of the CWC by the States Parties. The EU assistance is also focused on international co-operation in the field of chemical activities. A renewal of the Joint Action on support for OPCW activities can be expected to be examined soon by the Council bodies with a view to being implemented in 2006.**
- = **The EU is favourably considering the possibility of participating in the destruction process of the Albanian Chemical Weapons stockpiles, together with the US and Switzerland. As soon as the relevant technical information has been provided by the US, a draft Joint Action will be tabled and examined by the Council bodies.**
- = **A renewal of the IAEA Joint Action in support of the nuclear security fund is currently being examined by the Member States in the appropriate Council bodies. It is envisaged to expand geographic priorities to cover countries in North Africa and the Middle East. In addition, it is suggested that the new Joint Action include a new project concerning the provision of legislative assistance for the implementation of the Additional Protocol.**
- = **A Joint Action in support of the CTBTO verification system is being considered.**
- Promoting challenge inspections in the framework of the Chemical Weapons Convention and beyond. This issue will be addressed in the CWC competent bodies as well as in the framework of political dialogue with third States.
- = **The EU has actively supported the efforts of the OPCW facilitator for Challenge Inspections and has conveyed this support to third countries at Troika meetings. The Office of the Personal Representative has participated in a number of meetings on this issue in The Hague. The proposed EU Action Plan on Challenge Inspections has been acknowledged by the facilitator, who will use it, among other documents, for his final conclusions. Discussions on this issue continue both within the EU and in the OPCW.**

- Reinforcing the BTWC and the CWC and, in this context, continuing the reflection on verification instruments. The BTWC does not contain at present a verification mechanism. The EU must find ways to strengthen compliance. A group of experts to give advice on how this could be done. The EU will take the lead in efforts to strengthen regulations on trade with material that can be used for the production of biological weapons. The EU will also take the lead in supporting national implementation of the BTWC (e.g. in providing technical assistance). The EU will consider giving support to states with administrative or financial difficulties in their national implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention and the BTWC.

= **Programmes by Member States, the EU and the Community are ongoing and will continue.**

= **The examination of information provided by Member States on their bilateral assistance programmes lead to the conclusion that there is scope for EU initiatives in the field of biological weapons.**

= **The Personal Representative has put forward in March 2005, in line with the list of priorities which was endorsed by the Council in December 2004, inter alia suggestions on how the EU can promote universality and implementation of the BTWC. An EU Task Force was established by CODUN in order to provide advice on a preliminary draft EU Joint Action on support for the BTWC, which is currently being examined. This Joint Action would be implemented in 2006.**

= **The Netherlands organised a seminar in The Hague (14-15 April 2005) on preparations for the 2006 BTWC Review Conference. Some common elements were drawn from the Seminar as a basis for further work by the EU in preparation for the 2006 BTWC Review Conference.**

4) *Strengthening export control policies and practices in co-ordination with partners of the export control regimes; advocating, where applicable, adherence to effective export control criteria by countries outside the existing regimes and arrangements; strengthening suppliers' regimes and European co-ordination in this area.*

- Making the EU a leading co-operative player in the export control regimes by co-ordinating EU positions within the different regimes, supporting the membership of acceding countries and where appropriate involvement of the Commission, promoting a catch-all clause in the regimes, where it is not already agreed, as well as strengthening information exchange, in particular with respect to sensitive destinations, sensitive end-users and procurement patterns.

- = **EU co-ordination has been systematically organised prior to and, where necessary, during the meetings of the export control regimes, facilitating agreement on EU statements at regime meetings as well as EU proposals on certain issues.**
- = **The Presidency and the Troika have continued their efforts for the inclusion of all new Member States and acceding countries in the export control regimes. Concerning MTCR, the EU will continue its pro-active policy of support with new démarches to relevant third countries; an EU statement was pronounced by the Presidency at the Reinforced Point of Contact meeting in Paris in April; the issue will be considered further at the September Plenary. Regarding the Wassenaar Arrangement, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Malta were accepted into the Arrangement on 15 April as a result of a silence procedure, and were able to attend the May meeting of the General Working Group as full participants. An EU statement was pronounced at that meeting in favour of membership for Cyprus, and EU démarches will continue in order to promote the launching of a new silence procedure and the acceptance of Cyprus into the Arrangement.**
- = **The Office of the PR and Commission Services have regularly attended the relevant export control regime meetings. They are both part of the Presidency delegation in those regimes where the Commission does not have observer or participant status.**
- Reinforcing the efficiency of export controls in an enlarged Europe, and follow up to the Peer Review to disseminate good practices by taking special account of the challenges of the enlargement.
- = **Further to the recommendations from the Working Party on Dual Use Goods (based on the report of the Peer Review Task Force) issued in December 2004, (doc. 15455/04) the Commission Services committed to prepare proposals for consideration of the EU Member States and has already made a number of contributions to facilitate the rapid implementation of the Peer Review conclusions. In particular, discussions have started on the basis of Commission's proposals on issues such as: the reduction of divergences in implementation of the Regulation, the creation of a data base for EU denials, the sanctions in force in EU Member States, the enforcement of the Regulation. The Commission intends to make a communication on the follow up to the Peer Review and on possible amendments of the Regulation on the basis of an impact assessment to be outsourced.**

- = **In addition, Peer Reviews financed by the DG Enlargement financial instrument "TAIEX" were conducted from 8-11 March 2005 in Bulgaria and Romania by DG TRADE with the active contribution of the Czech Republic, Germany and UK experts, in order to assess the degree of preparedness of these countries who have to implement EC Regulation 1334/2000 upon their entry into the EU and to propose solutions to facilitate their alignment to the Regulation.**
- Setting up a programme of assistance to States in need of technical knowledge in the field of export control.
- = **A TACIS project for Russia to foster the development of effective Dual Use Export Control is under preparation. An implementation scheme to ensure the appropriate involvement of experts from Member States is being considered by the Commission.**
- = **an ad-hoc meeting on export controls implementation by China was organised in Beijing on 24-25 January 2005. The meeting, co-chaired by the Personal Representative and an official from the Chinese Ministry for Foreign Affairs, was attended by Chinese export control officials, the Presidency, members of the PR's office, the European Commission services and Member States experts having contributed to the Peer Review process. The objectives of the meeting, i.e. to learn about the Chinese export control system and its state of implementation, and to define possible areas for future co-operation, were met. The Chinese authorities expressed their interest in an assistance programme by the EU consisting in training customs officers.**
- = **Arrangements for export control seminars with other countries (Ukraine, Barcelona countries) are being discussed.**
- = **In the EC budget 2005, the European Parliament introduced, as in 2004, an amount of 3 Meuros under the budget line 19 02 12, the purpose of which is to "investigate measures by which the EC instruments can support and reinforce the fight against the proliferation of WMD and light weapons and combat illicit arms trafficking". The Commission, responsible for the implementation of the Pilot Projects, intends to focus the WMD part of the Pilot Project 2005 on co-operative projects in the field of export control. This Pilot Project will also serve to elaborate an implementation scheme ensuring the adequate involvement of experts of the EU Member States, setting the ground for longer term action in the field of export control under the next financial perspectives 2007-2013. Availability of experts will indeed become a critical parameter of success of EU co-operation on export control with third states.**

- Working to ensure that the Nuclear Suppliers' Group make the export of controlled nuclear and nuclear related items and technology conditional on ratifying and implementing the Additional Protocol.
- = **Discussions on this issue have continued in the CONOP Working Group. While there is consensus on the concept of making the Additional Protocol a condition of supply, there is as yet no agreement on the scope of those nuclear items, which should be covered in any such proposal within the NSG.**
- Promoting in the regimes reinforced export controls with respect to intangible transfers of dual-use technology, as well as effective measures relating to brokering and transshipment issues.
- = **Work continues in export control regimes on the strengthening of provisions concerning intangible transfers, but co-ordination among Member States on this issue is still insufficient. Indeed, the Peer Review conclusions highlighted the need for further exchange of information on practices with a view to adopting guidelines for implementation of the provisions of the Dual Use Regulation on controls of intangible transfers of technology.**
- Enhancing information exchange between Member States. Considering exchange of information between the EU Situation Centre and like-minded countries.
- = **The Situation Centre is reflecting on appropriate modalities.**

5) *Enhancing the security of proliferation-sensitive materials, equipment and expertise in the European Union against unauthorised access and risks of diversion.*

- Improving the control of high activity radioactive sources. After the adoption of the Council Directive on the control of high activity sealed radioactive sources, Member States should ensure its fast implementation at national level. The EU should promote the adoption of similar provisions by third countries.
- = **Démarches to third countries have been carried out and the results have been shared with the IAEA. Community legislation concerning the import/export of radioactive sources is under preparation.**

- Enhancing, where appropriate the physical protection of nuclear materials and facilities, including obsolete reactors and their spent fuel.
- = **The new Commission Regulation (Euratom 302/05) of 8 February 2005 on the application of Euratom safeguards defines Euratom Treaty safeguards reporting requirements and provides for the reporting necessary to fulfil obligations under the Additional Protocols for the EU.**
- = **Member States have ratified (and are therefore obliged to abide by the provisions of) the Convention on Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials. Member States are supportive of the initiative to convene a diplomatic conference in July 2005 at the IAEA in order to amend the Convention with the objective of widening its scope.**
- = **Improvement of the physical protection of a nuclear facility in the Russian Federation is the objective of the Joint Action, which was adopted by the Council on 22 November 2004. Preparations for the actual implementation of the Joint Action are still ongoing.**
- Strengthening of EC and national legislation and control over pathogenic microorganisms and toxins (both in Member States and in Acceding Countries) where necessary. Co-operation between public health, occupational health and safety and the non-proliferation structures should be reinforced. The creation of an EU Centre for Disease Control and the task that it would perform should be analysed.
- = **The Council decided on 12 December 2003 the setting up of the EU Centre for Prevention and Control of Diseases to be based in Stockholm. Its operational start was anticipated as of 1st May 2005.**
- Fostering dialogue with industry to reinforce awareness. An initiative will be taken in order to promote firstly, dialogue with the EU industry with a view to raising the level of awareness of problems related to the WMD and secondly, dialogue between EU and US industry, in particular in the biological sector. .
- = **With regard to dialogue with the EU Biotech industry, the Commission has considered that, in line with practice recognised in the context of implementation of Regulation 1334/2000 (in particular under Article 4 regarding the role of the dialogue between governments and exporter), it would be appropriate to start with an assessment of the modalities and results of the EU Member States national contacts with their industry, before carrying out an exercise at EU level. The Commission also draws the attention to the importance of raising awareness of the research sector as a matter of priority, given the significant activity in this sector.**

= **The Task Force on Peer Review has made detailed proposals to strengthen the interaction between each Member State and national exporters of dual use items (including researchers and academics) as well as between EC and EU federations of exporters. The Commission Services are having contacts with exporters to examine possible means to enhance interaction at EU level and will report to the WP on Dual Use Goods.**

6) *Strengthening identification, control and interception of illegal trafficking*

- Adoption by Member States of common policies related to criminal sanctions for illegal export, brokering and smuggling of WMD-related material.

= **In June 2004, the European Council adopted a text in which it invited the relevant Council bodies, within the framework of Justice and Home Affairs, to review the appropriate political and legal instruments towards the adoption of common policies related to criminal sanctions for illegal export, brokering and smuggling of WMD related material. In the Council Working Party on Dual Use Goods, the Commission has launched a questionnaire on the implementation of article 19 of Regulation 1334/2000 and on the existing sanctions in force in EU MS and on possible areas for harmonisation. A provisional report prepared by the Commission has been distributed to the WP Dual Use Goods and must be complemented with further contributions from the Member States, who have not yet answered the questionnaire. Regarding illicit sanctioning of brokering of dual use items, discussions took place in a number of export control regimes and in the group chaired by the Commission. The preliminary remarks of the EU Member State experts in the group chaired by Commission emphasised the problem of enforceability and proportionality of such measures. The discussion continues on the basis of Commission papers in the Dual Use Working Party. Member States, in the CONOP Working Party, also started to examine the possible implementation of criminal sanctions for illegal export, brokering and smuggling of WMD-related material.**

- Considering measures aimed at controlling the transit and transshipment of sensitive materials.

= **An EC Regulation amending the Community Customs Code to ensure enhanced safety and improvement of risk analysis (by means of summary declarations to be delivered by electronic means before goods arrive or depart) was adopted by the Council on 23 May 2005. In addition, the Commission is collecting Member States national legislation to examine their scope and, before making any proposals to the EU Member States, will make an impact assessment on possible amendment of Regulation 1334/2000**

- Supporting international initiatives aimed at the identification, control and interception of illegal shipments.

= **Member States continue to participate to PSI meetings and exercises to which the Office of the Personal Representative and the Commission services are regularly invited.**

B) Promoting a stable international and regional environment

1) Reinforcing EU co-operative threat reduction programmes with other countries, targeted at support for disarmament, control and security of sensitive materials, facilities and expertise.

- Prolonging the Programme on disarmament and non-proliferation in the Russian Federation beyond June 2004.

= **A Joint Action for the support of the physical protection of a nuclear site in the Russian Federation was adopted by the Council on 22 November 2004 (as mentioned above under point A5). The objective of this Joint Action is to support a project for the implementation of physical protection measures at the Bochvar Institute in Moscow of the Russian Federal Agency for Atomic Energy. The Joint Action has duration of 3 years and will be implemented by the German Government. Preparation for the actual implementation of this Joint Action is still ongoing.**

- Increasing EU co-operative threat reduction funding in the light of financial perspectives beyond 2006. The creation of a specific Community budget line for non-proliferation and disarmament of WMD should be envisaged. Member States should be encouraged to contribute also on a national basis. These efforts should include measures aimed at reinforcing the control of the non-proliferation of WMD related expertise, science and technology.

- a) On the increase of funding and the creation of a specific Community budget line for non-proliferation and disarmament of WMD.

= **It has become increasingly clear that proper implementation of the WMD Strategy depends on appropriate funding and human resources availability. The budgetary context has been discussed in various Council bodies during the first half of 2005. In principle, three sources are available: the CFSP budget, the EC budget and national contributions from Member States.**

CFSP budget: In 2004, non-proliferation projects financed out of the CFSP budget counted for some 15 Mio Euro. The forecast for 2005 by the Personal Representative, based on the priority list endorsed by the Council in December 2004, is in the area of 17 Mio Euro. It is too early to say whether the CFSP budget for 2005 will be able to cover these costs. The Personal Representative has indicated that additional funding may be necessary if the priorities endorsed by the Council are to be met in 2005. Actual expenditure will depend on available funding under the CFSP budget.

EC budget: Discussions are ongoing on the proposals made by the Commission in October 2004 for the Financial Instruments to cover programmes coming in support to non proliferation and disarmament of WMD. Difficulties, including of legal nature, have emerged regarding the possibility for measures promoting non-proliferation and disarmament falling within Community competence and hence being financed by the Community budget. The outcome of the ongoing discussions in the Council about these issues will be important when assessing the possibility of creating a Community budget line for non-proliferation.

Pilot Projects: In 2004, the European Parliament introduced an amount of 3 Meuros into the EC budget line 19 02 12 for a Pilot Project, the purpose of which is to investigate measures by which the EU instruments can support actions against the proliferation of WMD and to combat the proliferation of light weapons and illicit arms trafficking. Out of this 3 Meuros, 1.5 is being used by the Commission to finance the Research Institute SIPRI in realising an analysis of areas where the Community might provide a useful contribution to non-proliferation and disarmament of WMD, related materials, equipment and technologies. Particular attention is paid to the fulfilment of the commitments made in the G8 Global Partnership in 2002, and reaffirmed by the EU at several occasions since then. Additional attention is also paid to the area of export control covering a broader geographical area. A Conference is planned at the end of 2005, where the outcome of the Pilot Project will be presented. The CONOP, CODUN and COARM Council Working Parties are regularly informed on the progress of the Pilot Project.

For the 2005 EC budget, the European Parliament re-introduced an amount of 3 Mio. into budget line 19 02 12 for a Pilot Project. 1.5 Meuros will be used by the Commission for launching co-operative actions in the field of export control. The Commission is preparing the Terms of Reference. CONOP, CODUN and the Dual Use Working Party are regularly informed.

The outcome of the Pilot Projects will be used in the course of 2006 by the Commission to define the 2007-2013 programming of Community assistance. The results of the deliberations presently taking place on these Financial Instruments will be integrated into this programming effort.

b) On the issue of facilitating the conversion of WMD expertise

- Setting up of a programme of assistance to States in need of technical knowledge in order to ensure the security and control of sensitive material, facilities and expertise.

= **A possible initiative in this area is mentioned in the list of priorities endorsed by the Council in December 2003.**

2) *Integrate the WMD non-proliferation concerns into the EU's political, diplomatic and economic activities and programmes, aiming at the greatest effectiveness.*

- Mainstreaming non-proliferation policies into the EU's wider relations with third countries, in accordance to the General Affairs and External Relations Council conclusions of 17 November 2003, inter alia by introducing the non-proliferation clause in agreements with third countries.

= **The Personal Representative has continued to participate in several Council geographical working group meetings, in order to promote awareness to the WMD Strategy and to the need to insert the non-proliferation clause in agreements with third countries and of similar provisions in different action plans negotiated with third countries, in particular in the Mediterranean region and with India.**

= **Since December 2004, the non-proliferation clause has been inserted in the revised ACP-EU Cotonou agreement concluded with the 78 countries concerned, in addition to the previous non-proliferation clause already also inserted in the PCA with Tajikistan and the Association Agreement with Syria, containing a WMD clause closely modelled on the 2003 GAERC conclusions, initialled in Brussels on 19 October 2004. Discussions are still under way in the context of negotiations of an interregional association agreement with Mercosur, a FTA with the GCC countries and partnership and Co-operation Agreement with Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, the Philippines, Malaysia and Brunei. A parallel instrument (articles 24 and 38 TEU) to the community agreement with Pakistan which would contain a non-proliferation clause is to be negotiated by the Council. Negotiations have yet to start.**

In parallel, Action Plans with countries of Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean in the context of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) have been adopted with a WMD chapter, the language of which is based on key elements of the WMD clause. Such Action Plans have been adopted with Ukraine, Moldova, Israel, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia and the Palestinian Authority. Negotiations have started with Egypt.

In a different context and region and as a follow-up to the EU-India Summit in 2004, an Action Plan with India is being negotiated which would include some actions related to WMD.

- = The EU has also taken the initiative to restart a dialogue on disarmament and non-proliferation in the context of the Barcelona process. Following a July 2004 visit by the PR in the Near-East and the Mediterranean, the Euromed Ministers at their meeting in The Hague on 29 November 2004 endorsed the principle of an ad hoc meeting, to be organised together with the EU Presidency and the Commission, in the context of the Barcelona Process on non-proliferation and disarmament. This ad hoc meeting is to be convened in Brussels to start an incremental process of dialogue among senior arms control representatives.**

Consultations are ongoing in order to finalise the terms of reference for the meeting, which should take place at the beginning of the UK Presidency.

- = HR Solana and his representatives have participated in a number of meetings for the implementation of the Paris Agreement reached in November 2004 between Iran on one side and France, Germany and United Kingdom, with the support of HR Solana, on the other side. The objective of these talks, which are supported by all EU Member States, is to negotiate a long-term agreement with Iran, which would include “objective guarantees”, concerning the peaceful nature of its nuclear programme.**
- Increasing Union efforts to resolve regional conflicts by using all the instruments available to it, notably within the framework of CFSP and ESDP.**
- = Council and Commission to implement this policy on a general level.**

- C) *Co-operating closely with the United States and other key partners*
- 1) *Ensuring adequate follow up to the EU-US declaration on non-proliferation issued at the June 2003 Summit.*
- = **Co-operation in export control regimes and in the implementation of the G8 Global Partnership is continuing.**
 - = **EU-US dialogue meetings as well as contacts between the US authorities and the Commission and/or the HR's Personal Representative on WMD continue in order to compare notes on new areas of co-operation.**
 - = **Practical co-operation with destruction of chemical weapons in Albania is being considered.**
 - = **An EU/US declaration on co-operation in promoting international peace and security, which also covers non-proliferation, is under preparation with a view to its adoption by the EU/US Summit on 20 June 2005.**
- 2) *Ensuring co-ordination and, where appropriate, joint initiatives with other key partners.*
- = **The Presidency and the troika have used all opportunities to advise third countries of the WMD Strategy and its provisions at both working and political level.**
 - = **At the EU Japan Summit on 2 May 2005, leaders renewed their commitment to implement the 2004 EU-Japan Joint Declaration on Non-proliferation and Disarmament and to co-ordinate further their activities. Very good co-ordination is taking place in the handling of the Iranian nuclear issue.**
 - = **The roadmap for the Common Space of External Security adopted by the EU/Russia Summit on 10 May 2005 also aims at strengthening co-operation in order to address challenges and key threats linked to the proliferation of WMD. Russia is also an important partner and supporter of the negotiations with Iran.**
 - = **In the context of the EU-China workshop on Export Controls in January 2005, Chinese authorities have suggested to start a strategic dialogue EU-China, which would cover inter alia issues of disarmament and non-proliferation, as a follow-up to the EU-China Declaration on non-proliferation and arms control.**

- D) *Developing the necessary framework within the Union*
- 1) *Organising a six monthly debate on the implementation of the EU Strategy at the External Relations Council.*
- = **Presidency is scheduling the debate for the June General Affairs and External Relations Council.**
- 2) *Setting up, as agreed in Thessaloniki, a unit which would function as a monitoring centre, entrusted with the monitoring of the consistent implementation of the EU Strategy and the collection of information and intelligence, in liaison with the Situation Centre. This monitoring centre would be set up at the Council Secretariat and fully associate the Commission.*
- = **A paper covering the scope of the mission and possible modalities of such a centre is being prepared by the Office of the Personal Representative, in contact with the Commission services.**
- E) *Exchange of information and analysis with NATO*
- Reference to exchange of information and analysis with NATO, within the agreed framework arrangements, is made in the EU's WMD Strategy in chapter II paragraph 28.
- = **In implementation of paragraph 28 of the EU's WMD Strategy and following the conclusions of the 10 March 2004 PSC/NAC meeting, staff to staff contacts have continued to take place.**
-