



PRESS STATEMENT

European Confederation of Police

Responsible: Jan Velleman

☎ +352/43 49 61-22 📠 +352/43 49 61-33

jv@eurocop-police.org

EURO COP – 617, rue de Neudorf – L-2220 Luxembourg

mobile: +352 6 21 21 30 77

Luxembourg, 18 May 2010

The EuroCOP Committee expresses concern about the negative effects of drastic budget cuts for the police on crime and terrorism in a rising number of EU States

A EuroCOP Resolution demands to maintain and improve standards of law enforcement agencies instead of imposing pay and budget cuts

At its meeting in Krakow on May 10-11, 2010 the EuroCOP Committee passed a resolution on the impact of the financial crisis on police services in Europe.

“We are very concerned about the drastic budget cuts many of our colleagues all over Europe are facing,” EuroCOP President Heinz Kiefer said after the resolution was passed.

“We want to issue a warning that these cuts will have a negative effect on many member states possibility to fulfil their obligations in the fight against cross border crime and terrorism.”

The resolution calls upon all EU member states to maintain and improve the standards achieved by law enforcement agencies in order to reach the goals the EU has set with its 2010 strategy for intelligent, sustainable and integrative growth. The situation in many EU member states at the moment is rather the opposite, where some lack the adequate resources already today.

“Any further budget cuts will endanger any progress that has been made in the past, also as far as the trust for the police is concerned,” President Heinz Kiefer said.

Further the police unions and staff organisations represented in the EuroCOP Committee point out the need for minimal standards for the public administration including law enforcement.

One way this could be done would be to “breathe live into the ‘Copenhagen Criteria’ for democracy and rule of law [---] in the form of a Stability Pact for law enforcement that ensures that citizens not only on paper should be protected against crime and terrorism with the same high standards throughout the Union.”

The European Confederation of Police, EuroCOP, is the umbrella organisation of 35 national Police Unions and Staff Organisations from 26 European States. It represents the interests of over 500.000 police officers in Europe. www.eurocop.org