



Mr David Sassoli
President of the European Parliament

Cc:
Ms Catherine De Bolle
Executive Director of Europol

Europol Programming Document 2020-2022

Dear President Sassoli,

Primarily, and on behalf of the Management Board (MB) of Europol, let me please extend our most sincere congratulations on your election as President of the European Parliament on 3 July and wish you every success in the discharge of this highly important responsibility.

I would like to inform you that, pursuant to Article 12(1) of the Europol Regulation (ER), the Europol Management Board (MB), by written procedure with deadline on 25 November 2019, adopted the Europol Programming Document (PD) 2020-2022 after taking into account the opinion of the Commission and having consulted the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group (JPSG) on its multiannual component.

Subsequently, following the final adoption of the general budget of the Union and pursuant to Article 58(8) of the ER, the MB, at its 10-11 December meeting, adopted the final Europol budget for 2020.

While taking positive note of the increased resources granted to the Agency compared to the 2019 budget, the MB noted with concern the shortfall compared to the estimate on whose basis the Europol Work Programme 2020 had been crafted -a difference of almost €21 M. and of 42 Temporary Agents (TAs)-.

In view of the finally allocated budget and establishment plan, the MB acknowledged the compelling need for Europol to reconsider the level of ambition regarding the objectives and actions set out in the Work Programme 2020 and to engage in a thorough assessment of the actions to be (de)prioritised in close consultation with the Member States.

During this discussion, the MB also expressed concern about the foreseeable adverse impact of the required re-prioritisation exercise on the Agency's capacity to fully implement its Strategy 2020+ since the first year, and thus to be able to meet the urgent, growing and increasingly complex demands from national law enforcement authorities. In this context, the MB reiterated its serious concerns regarding the proposal put forward by the European Commission with regard to Europol's financial framework 2021-2027, which is clearly insufficient for Europol to perform its core tasks and help EU Member States ensure the safety and security of their citizens.

From a procedural standpoint, the resulting updated version of the PD 2020-2022 will be submitted for adoption by the MB at the earliest possible opportunity, namely

Europol Public Information

at its 10-11 March 2020 meeting. Following its adoption by the MB, pursuant to Article 32(9) of the Financial Regulation applicable to Europol, the relevant updated version of the PD 2020-2022 will be transmitted to the European Parliament, the Council, the Commission, and the JPSG.

Pending the conclusion of this process, the MB considered unnecessary to forward the PD 2020-2022 as it currently stands. This notwithstanding, while relying on your understanding we remain of course available to forward the document in its current status upon your request.

Please allow me to reiterate Europol's financial needs for the period 2021-2027, and to respectfully request the Union's budgetary authority to agree on a sustainable budget increase for our Agency that gradually leads to at least doubling its current budget by 2027.

We rely on your decisive support to ensure that Europol delivers, through the full implementation of its Strategy 2020+, a substantial breakthrough in the way it services our law enforcement community.



Yours sincerely,

Andrei Linta

Chairperson