

**TRIO PRESIDENCY OF HUNGARY, POLAND AND ROMANIA  
18-MONTH WORK PROGRAMME**

**1 July 2012 – 31 December 2013**

By evaluating and assessing the challenges, results and experience of the Salzburg Forum (SF) over the first ten years, the Ministers determined the new framework for cooperation at EU and regional level as well as with third countries in the Salzburg Forum Vision 2020. Thereby the Ministers even decided on the future structures and methods of cooperation including the introduction of trio presidencies and the elaboration and implementation of 18-month work programmes.

In the first 18-month programme accomplished from 1 January 2011 to 30 June 2012 Austria, Bulgaria and the Czech Republic have made significant efforts to strengthen the cooperation of the Salzburg Forum states within the EU, to further enhance regional partnership and intensify the platform of the “Friends of the Salzburg Forum”.

As of 1 July 2012 Hungary, Poland and Romania will take up the Trio Presidency of the Salzburg Forum. As an important development, the Salzburg Forum states welcome Croatia as full member of the Salzburg Forum and look forward to the fruitful cooperation in the implementation of the 18-month work programme.

## 1. COOPERATION AT EU LEVEL

The followings are identified as those strategic issues expected to be on the EU agenda in the next 18 months where cooperation within the Salzburg Forum should be enhanced and possible shared interests could be explored. This is a living document which can be amended and updated according to the developments.

Action	Objectives	Activities	Lead nation(s)	Time-frame
<b>1. The implementation of the Stockholm Programme</b>				
1.1. Schengen governance	Guaranteeing the principle of free movement of persons while taking into account the security interests of the region, securing effective functioning of the Schengen area, establishing an effective Schengen evaluation mechanism	Coordination of positions, joint papers on shared positions	Romania, Hungary, Austria, the Czech Republic	ongoing
1.2. Accession of Bulgaria and Romania to the Schengen area	The final positive political decision should be made in September 2012. The EU Council Decisions should be adopted.	Strong and continuous support of the Salzburg Forum states to Bulgaria and Romania. Joint letter to PRES, COM and the MSs	Poland	2nd half of 2012
1.3. Smart borders		Coordination of positions	Hungary	ongoing
1.4. Common European Asylum System		Coordination of positions	Austria	ongoing
1.5. EU strategy on trafficking in human beings		Coordination of positions	Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria	ongoing
1.6. Data retention		Coordination of positions	Hungary	ongoing
1.7. Data protection		Coordination of positions	Poland	ongoing
1.8. EU PNR system		Coordination of positions	Hungary, Bulgaria	ongoing
1.9. Implementation of the EU Internal Security Strategy	Effective implementation of the EU Internal Security Strategy, strengthening the role of	A workshop will be organised in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2012, in Vienna	Austria, Bulgaria	ongoing

	COSI Strengthening cooperation in the field of cyber security			
1.10. Solidarity clause		Elaborating a common concept paper	Austria	ongoing
1.11. Review of the EU Civil Protection Mechanism		Coordination of positions	Bulgaria	ongoing
1.12. Mid-term review of the Stockholm Programme		Extensive evaluation of the results, lesson learnt etc.	Poland	2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2012
<b>2. Preparation of the new multiannual strategy in the field of freedom, security and justice</b>	Channelling the interests of the SF states into the new programme as early as possible	Drawing up of a joint position paper	Poland Slovakia	2013
<b>3. New Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020: EU budget for the home affairs area</b>	Identification of common interests	Coordination of positions		ongoing
<b>4. Making better use of EU funds</b>	Using the EU funds for implementing the actions of the Salzburg Forum	Joint projects	Austria	ongoing

## 2. REGIONAL PRACTICAL COOPERATION

Action	Objective(s)	Activities	Lead nation(s)	Time-frame
<b>1. Facilitating cross-border enforcement of road-safety related traffic offences</b>	Conclusion of the negotiations and implementation of the agreement	Conclusion of the negotiations, Signature of the agreement, Drafting of the implementation agreement (ATIA)	Hungary, Austria	Signature: 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2012
<b>2. Witness protection</b>	Enhance the cooperation along the agreement	Implementation of the newly concluded agreement, organizing expert workshop with possible invitation	Romania	2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2013

		of Russia, Republic of Moldova, Turkey and the countries of the Western Balkan		
<b>3. Disaster management</b>	Strengthen the cooperation on increasing security of citizens by improving disaster response and civil protection systems, as well as enhancing coordinated disaster management systems with a special focus on integrated flood management	Expert seminar will be organised	Poland, Hungary	ongoing
<b>4. Enhanced police cooperation on the preparation of mass events</b>	Improving the cooperation among the law enforcement authorities	Preparing a manual	Poland	ongoing
<b>5. Implementation of PA 11 – Security of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR)</b>	Active involvement of the SF states in the implementation of the objectives set forth in PA 11 of EUSDR	Coordination of joint activities Drafting and implementation of joint projects	Bulgaria, Romania	ongoing
<b>6. Regional Security Cluster - Regionalisation of internal security in the EU</b>	Developing a concept for a Regional Security Cluster, Improving the cooperation		Austria	ongoing

### 3. COOPERATION WITH THIRD COUNTRIES

Action	Objective(s)	Activities	Lead nation(s)	Time-frame
<b>1. Cooperation with the countries of the Western Balkan</b>				
1.1. Support to Montenegro with a view to the launch of the EU accession negotiations where chapters 23 and 24 are of significant importance	Bringing Montenegro closer to the EU standards on the judiciary and fundamental rights and justice, freedom and security			ongoing

1.2. Cooperation on the fight against cyber crime	Establishment of a regional platform facilitating cybercrime counteraction in Southeast Europe	Holding the second SEE regional conference on cyber security and cybercrime in October 2012	Bulgaria	ongoing
1.3. Fight against illegal migration	Intensifying regional cooperation	Establishing a common platform to prevent illegal immigration via the Western Balkans by thoroughly discussing the recent trends, to explore further opportunities of practical cooperation, elaborating a comprehensive approach including the aspects of migration management, criminal intelligence, capacity building and training	Hungary	
1.4. Post visa liberalization monitoring mechanism	Maintain the visa free regime with the countries		Bulgaria Slovakia	
1.5. PEP			Austria	
1.6. Sarajevo follow-up		Workshop "Integration, Fundamental Rights and European Values", 10.-12. December 2012 in Vienna	Austria	ongoing
1.7. Capacity building	Support to the countries in their efforts of institution-building	Cooperation on the best use of IPA funds		
1.8. Cooperation in countering drug trafficking	Exploring the possibilities for a closer cooperation of the SF countries and their WB	Possible organization of the joint regional International Drug	Bulgaria	ongoing

	Friends with DEA and the Middle East countries	Enforcement Conference in 2013 on exchange of expertise and outlining joint measures for countering drug trafficking.		
<b>2. Cooperation with the Eastern neighbours</b>				
2.1. Implementation of the Action Plan of the Prague Process	Strengthening the implementation of the Eastern dimension of the Global Approach to Migration and Mobility	Implementation of EC Targeted Initiative on Support of Prague Process Action Plan implementation and its four flagship initiatives	Poland with the assistance of Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and other partner states	2nd half 2012 – 1st half 2013
2.2. Support to the Republic of Moldova in the implementation of the Visa Liberalization Action Plan	Bringing the Republic of Moldova closer to the EU standards in justice and home affairs		Slovakia	
<b>3. Cooperation with Turkey</b>				
3.1. Launching of the cooperation with Turkey	Involving Turkey in the cooperation in the fight against security challenges coming via Turkey	Closer practical cooperation in the fight against illegal migration	Hungary, Bulgaria	ongoing
<b>4. Cooperation with Central Asia</b>				
4.1. Exploring the possible areas of future cooperation with a view to the security challenges originating from or via the region	Preparation of the possible future cooperation with Central Asia	Discussion on the recent trends, evaluation of the implementation of BOMCA, CABSİ etc.	Austria	
<b>5. Regional cooperation processes in Southeast-Europe</b>				
5.1. Enhance the cooperation with the regional organisations	Enhance the effectiveness of the cooperation in the region	Assessment of the synergies between the regional mechanisms in Southeast Europe in the interest of a better and comprehensive approach of the regional security	Romania, Bulgaria	ongoing

#### **4. AN EFFECTIVE COORDINATION MECHANISM**

In order to enhance the effectiveness of the functioning of the Salzburg Forum the new coordination mechanism outlined in the Salzburg Forum Vision 2020 should be fully implemented and adjusted to the recent developments, if necessary. To achieve the objectives and realize the actions as set out in this work programme more engagement and better coordination are deserved. The role of the Presidency-in-office is of crucial importance in this regard. The responsibility of lead nations should also be strengthened in order to develop and bring forward as well as monitor the progress in the implementation of the actions listed in this work programme.

The system of the SF coordination should be capital-based and channelled by the General Coordinators of the Salzburg Forum. The General Coordinators of the Salzburg Forum are invited to regularly meet in the margins of the JAI Council in order to identify the major issues of common interest for the forthcoming period. They also meet personally to extensively prepare the SF ministerial meetings. The SF coordinators support the work of SF General Coordinators, they are in regular contact with each other, and constitute a permanent working platform at the capital level.

Exploring areas of common interests at the very early stage is a key element to meet the overall objective of our cooperation within the Salzburg Forum.

To this end, delegates in the strategic EU Council working groups (COSI, CATS and SCIFA) as well as JHA counsellors should be requested by the General Coordinators to regularly monitor the EU JHA agenda and report to the General Coordinators specifically on this issue.

The re-introduction of the practice of brief regular ministerial meetings (dinner/breakfast) before JAI Council meetings is also strongly advised to share information among the decision-makers in order to coordinate national or regional interests, if necessary. In case of common positions in certain agenda items of the respective JAI Council meeting, joint interventions on behalf of the Salzburg Forum are also encouraged.

More joint papers on issues of common interest are also encouraged which should be coordinated by the respective lead nation or the Presidency-in-office.

Better coordination should also include cooperation on candidatures from SF countries for important positions and seats in the field of home affairs. To this end, a specific coordination mechanism will be drawn up.