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ACPO

ASSOCIATION OF CHIEF POLICE OFFICERS IN SCOTLAND

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Your Ref:
Our Ref: GH/JL/0001380-2010
Date: 22 December 2010

Extradition Review Panel
c/o Head of Judicial Cooperation Unit
5 Floor, Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF

Dear Sir or Madam,

HOME OFFICE REVIEW OF EXTRADITION

I refer to your correspondence dated 3 November 2010 in connection with the above subject, which has been considered by members of the Crime Business Area.

I wish to make particular reference to the operation of European Arrest Warrants (EAWs). The Scottish Crime and Drug Enforcement Agency (SCDEA) has had involvement in the European Arrest Warrant procedure, which has been standardised within the ACPOS Investigations Manual (Appendix E) across all Scottish police forces.

Scotland is well placed to deal with EAWs, with Crown Office being the central authority for Scotland and Edinburgh Sheriff Court the appropriate and dedicated area to deal with international legal matters. The geography of Scotland makes this single point of contact a practical solution and it is currently working well in practice.

Increasingly, police forces have identified that dedicated International Liaison can have many benefits within the environment of international investigations and due process. With Scotland's changing demographics this is becoming increasingly important.

I agree that continued dialogue with our European partners is important to improve mutual legal recognition and to improve the process of judicial cooperation in criminal matters.

Yours sincerely,



George Hamilton
Assistant Chief Constable
Secretary, Crime Business Area

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