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AUTORITÉ NATIONALE DE SÉCURITÉ
NATIONAL SECURITY AUTHORITY

NSA

Protection of Classified Information in Belgium

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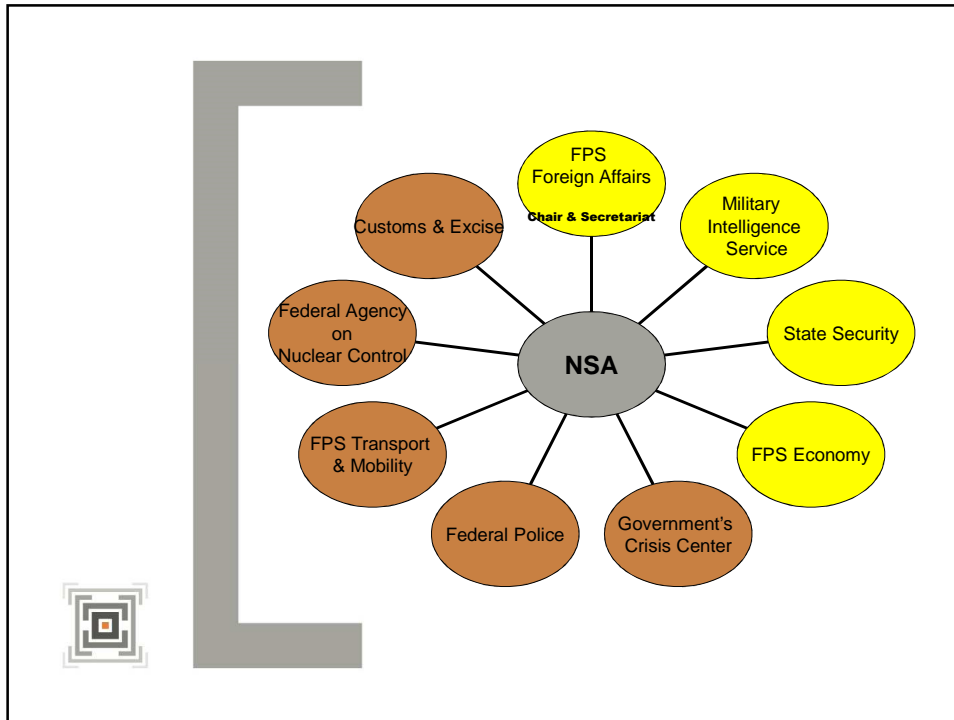NATIONAL SECURITY AUTHORITY

Overview

1. The National Security Authority
2. Regulatory Framework
3. Security Clearances and screenings
4. Certification of CIS
5. Management of classified information
6. CPA PRS
7. International

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1. NSA: Organisation structure & competences

✓ Collaborative working and decision-making
✓ Input from competent departments essential to service delivery
✓ Monthly board meetings

RISK BASED APPROACH

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✓ Protect classified information
- Issue security clearances
- Certify communication and information systems
- Monitor management of classified information
- Defend interests on classified information internationally

✓ Regulate access to sensitive venues, events and professions
- Issue security attestations and advices

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✓ 41000 individuals security cleared
✓ 1500 companies security cleared

✓ 200 requests for FSC on average/year
✓ 7900 requests for PSC on average/year

✓ 30000 security verifications on average/year

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2. Regulatory Framework

Current situation /policy making / review

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✓ Act of 11/12/1998 on classification and security clearances, security advices and security attestations
✓ Royal Decree of 23/03/2000 on implementation of the act
✓ Act of 11/12/1998 creating an appeal body on security clearances, advices and attestations
✓ Ministerial Directives
✓ International Treaties

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National Security Board (Government)

Strategic Committee on Intelligence and
Security (evaluating coordinated policy)

Coordinating Committee on Intelligence and
Security (developing coordinated policy)

National Security Authority

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✓ Review of legal acts and procedures
✓ Adapt regulatory framework to current needs
✓ Optimisation of service delivery
✓ Planning and development in 2016

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3. Security Clearances

Principals and vetting procedure

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✓ Need to know

✓ Secrecy, loyalty, integrity

✓ Issued by the NSA, after vetting

2 legal exceptions: State Security for its own personnel and Military Intelligence Service for Defence personnel

✓ Valid for maximum 5 years - review

✓ 3 levels: confidential, secret, top secret

✓ Appeal in case of withdrawal or refusal

✓ Charges depending on clearance level

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✓ PSC requests always via security officer
✓ Vetting by an intelligence service
✓ Vetting requirements determined by Ministerial Committee on Intelligence and Security
✓ Vetting duration:
  ▪ Confidential: 2 months
  ▪ Secret: 3 months
  ▪ Top Secret: 6 months
  ▪ Extendable with 3 months if assistance required from other States

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✓ FSC for classified projects/programs
✓ Valid for maximum 5 years
  ▪ With storage capacity and CIS capable system
  ▪ Without storage capacity
✓ Vetting in two phases
  ▪ FPS Economy: financial analysis
  ▪ Intelligence services: security and intelligence briefing, vetting of physical environment, CIS, Board of Administrators, personnel requiring access to Classified Information or secured areas

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- ✓ Appeal possible when a Security Clearance is refused or withdrawn
- ✓ Appeal must be lodged within 30 days after the decision by the NSA
- ✓ The Appeal Body consists of 3 magistrates and takes a final and motivated decision within 60 days

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4. Certification of CIS

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✓ Protection measures based on risk-analysis
✓ Confidentiality, integrity, availability
✓ Inspection done by military intelligence
   service
✓ Certification issued by NSA

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5. Management of classified information

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✓ Role and responsibilities of the security officer: monitoring and control
✓ Industrial security
  ▪ Classified contracts
  ▪ Transportation plans
  ▪ Requests for visit
✓ Training and support
✓ Management of security incidents

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6. CPA PRS

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7. International

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✓ Bilateral general security agreements
✓ Representation of Belgium in security committees and accreditation boards of international organisation

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Risk based approach: recent experience

✓ PSC
✓ FSC
✓ Screening
  Existing
  New

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IN 1897 NOTHING
HAPPENED.

Questions?