



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 18 October 2012

14990/12

CORDROGUE 67

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

of: Meeting of the Horizontal Working Party on Drugs
on: 3 October 2012
Subject: Summary of discussions

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda set out in document CM 4476/1/12 REV 1 was approved with addition of the following points under AOB:

- The second European conference on drug supply indicators;
- Multi-country Workshop on “Drug prevention and monitoring: situation and perspectives in the ENP Southern Partnership countries”.

2. Information concerning the proceedings of other EU bodies

The Presidency informed the delegations about the meeting with the chairmen of working parties dealing with the EU funding programmes 2014-2020 relevant in the field of drugs and announced that another meeting would be held on 5 October 2012. In view of this meeting the delegations were requested to indicate if they considered that some drug related issues were not currently covered by the Health for Growth Programme and ISF-Police and if so, to specify which additional actions should be covered and by which Programme.

A number of delegations indicated existing gaps in the current drug-related funding, among the actions not covered naming coordination, judicial cooperation, police cooperation and such cross-cutting issues as new psychoactive substances. Some delegations proposed re-inserting drug-related issues into the Justice programme and others stressed that drug-related funding should also be balanced across drug supply and drug demand reduction. One delegation questioned whether drugs could not be funded under a single programme and was explained that it was impossible due to the incompatibility of the public health and criminal law legal basis.

A representative of the Commission informed the meeting that two new legislative proposals concerning precursors used for the production of heroin and amphetamine had been recently adopted by the Commission, which introduced a quicker decision-making procedure on tackling drug precursors and which would be dealt with by the Customs Union working group and presented to the HDG on 21 November 2012.

3. Discussion on the new EU Drugs Strategy 2013-2020

The delegations discussed the "Drug supply reduction" and "Information, research and evaluation" as well as the revised "Preface", "Introduction" and "Coordination" chapters of the draft EU Drugs Strategy 2013-2020 set out in doc. 12036/1/12 REV 1 JAI 639 CORDROGUE 52 SAN 205 JAIEX 71.

During the discussion on the "Drug supply reduction" chapter some delegations proposed adding some new paragraphs on intelligence-led law enforcement to address large scale drug trafficking, on the role of the regional cooperation platforms and on working towards more efficient policies of drug supply. Some delegations proposed to expand the focus of the Strategy from police cooperation to law enforcement cooperation. One delegation expressed its belief that it was important to improve organisational or legal aspects of the Member States' legal instruments and requested that the Strategy encouraged Member States to work towards this goal.

While discussing the "Information, research and evaluation" chapter some delegations proposed including a term "monitoring" in the name of the chapter and made suggestions for new paragraphs on encouraging ongoing training for people working with drug users and for law enforcement officials and on inviting the EU to continue investing in data collection and monitoring of situation at national level.

During the discussion on the "Introduction" chapter, some delegations raised doubts about the necessity for the Commission to present annual progress reports on the implementation of the Strategy and its action plans, as mentioned in the current version of the Strategy, therefore it was agreed that only reports on selected issues would be prepared, provided that some actions had been completed and progress had been achieved. Some delegations also opposed the mentioning of the Pompidou group, as not all Member States were also parties to the Pompidou group, while others stressed the importance of this group.

4. Report on the National Drugs Coordinators meeting in Cyprus: “Women and Drug Use Treatment: Issues and Challenges”

The Presidency reported on the above-mentioned meeting held on 18 September 2012 in Cyprus (see doc. 14289/12 CORDROGUE 62 SAN 208).

5. Preparation for the High Level Specialised Dialogue on Drugs between the EU and the Andean Community

The Presidency reminded the delegates that during the last HDG meeting the possible topics to be discussed at the above-mentioned meeting to be held in Quito on 30-31 October 2012 were analysed and noted that they still had not received the agenda of the meeting from the Andean Community. The Presidency also noted that only a few EU delegations would participate in the meeting and encouraged other delegations to consider their participation.

6. Report on the EU-Russia dialogue on drugs

The Presidency reported on the above-mentioned meeting held on 4 September 2012 (see doc. 13741/12 CORDROGUE 61 COEST 307).

7. Report on the EU-Morocco and Lebanon dialogue on drugs

The Presidency reported on the above-mentioned meeting held on 2 October 2012 (see doc. 15155/12 CORDROGUE 69). The representative of the Commission emphasised that organising this expert meeting was a very important step and hoped that such meetings would be organised in the future because of the importance of this region.

8. Any other business

- ***Mission of EEAS to Ashgabat to participate in the CADAP steering committee***

The representative of the EEAS gave an overview of the CADAP steering committee meeting held on 11 September 2012, where senior officials of all five Central Asian states participated. She noted that currently the 5th phase of CADAP was being implemented and informed the meeting that the 6th phase would be launched next year. The speaker reminded the delegates that the EU-Central Asia Action Plan on Drugs would expire in 2013, and stocktaking exercise had to be completed under this plan.

- ***Bolivian re-accession to the 1961 UN Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs - current state of discussion in Member States***

The delegations discussed the above-mentioned issue with the majority of delegations noting that their official position had not yet been adopted. They expressed worries about creating a precedent if allowing Bolivia to re-accede the Single Convention with a reserve, but also feared the consequences if Bolivia was left out of the Convention. Some delegations informed the meeting that the high level Bolivian delegation had requested to meet with their Ministers, drug specialists and Parliament Members. One delegation also inquired about the consequences for funding drug-related projects in Bolivia, if Bolivia was out of the Single Convention. The meeting was also informed that the study on the Bolivian coca leaf was in its final stage of completion and that by the end of the year Bolivia was expected to have reports on all eight components of the study.

- ***The second European conference on drug supply indicators***

The representatives of the Commission and EMCDDA reminded the delegates that a first conference was held in 2010, where the initial idea of developing the drug supply indicators was discussed, and explained that the second conference to be held on 22-23 November 2012 in Lisbon would be a technical one, where the EMCDDA proposals on indicators would be analysed. The importance of nominating three appropriate experts from each Member State was stressed so as to reach a good consensus on the indicators and to improve the evidence basis of the EU drugs policy.

- ***Multi-country Workshop on “Drug prevention and monitoring: situation and perspectives in the ENP Southern Partnership countries”***

The representative of the Commission presented the above-mentioned event noting that all Mediterranean countries, except for Syria, would participate in this workshop which would be financed by TAIEX and organised on 15-16 October in Limassol, Cyprus. The speaker also indicated that the participants would have a possibility to strengthen contacts with EMCDDA.
