

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 16 January 2013

5383/13

CORDROGUE 4

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

of:	Meeting of the Horizontal Working Party on Drugs
on:	9 January 2013
Subject:	Summary of discussions

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda set out in document CM 5854/1/12 REV 1 was approved with the addition of the following points under AOB:

- European summer school on drugs;
- Launching of the joint EMCDDA and Europol report on the drug market.

2. Information from the Presidency

 Presentation of the programme and priorities of the Irish Presidency in the field of drugs

The Presidency presented the calendar of the meetings and their priorities in the field of drugs, emphasising that their focus would be on adopting the new EU Drugs Action Plan 2013-2016.

Information concerning the proceedings of other EU bodies on drug issues

The HDG was updated about some recent events of relevance to antidrug policy, including the COSI meetings during the IE Presidency period, an examination of proposed amendments to drug precursor legislation and a possible request to Europol to produce the reports for countries opening the accession negotiations similar to that produced on organised crime in Montenegro.

3. Discussion on the draft EU Drugs Action Plan 2013-2016

The delegations discussed the "Coordination", "Drug demand reduction" and "Drug Supply reduction" chapters of the draft EU Action Plan on Drugs 2013-2016, as set out in doc. DS 1869/12, commenting on the number and definition of actions foreseen, the number of indicators, the need for further prioritisation of actions and the reporting mechanisms envisaged. A few new actions were suggested. In reply to a proposal to indicate only actions with a concrete deadline, the Presidency explained that ongoing actions should also stay in the document so as to keep them as priorities on the agenda. Delegations welcomed the inclusion of cooperation with civil society in the draft Action Plan, and called for a similar inclusion of cooperation with scientific circles. The Presidency also informed the delegates about its wish to involve the civil society through the Civil Society Forum on Drugs in drafting the Action Plan and set a deadline for the written comments of delegations at 18 January 2013.

4. Report on the Second European Conference on Drug Supply Indicators

The representatives of the Commission and EMCDDA presented the conclusions of the Chairs of the above-mentioned conference held on 22-23 November 2012 in Lisbon, as contained in doc. 5063/13 CORDROGUE 3. It was emphasised that the EU would be the first in the world to develop such harmonised indicators. A discussion followed if the indicators proposed by the experts matched the political priorities. The speakers noted that it was up to the Member States to define what information on drug supply they needed exactly, as the indicators had only been developed by the experts and politicians had not yet been consulted on this issue.

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5. Preparation for the 56th Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

The Presidency informed the meeting about the preparation for the forthcoming CND session to be held on 11-15 March 2013 in Vienna, also noting that a request had been made for a side event on the new EU Drugs Strategy 2013-2020. The speaker explained that, as usual the EU statements would be prepared in Vienna and the draft resolutions would be firstly dealt with in the HDG. He reminded that a deadline of 15 February 2013 was set for nominating panellists for round table discussions and of 18 February 2013 for submitting draft resolutions to Vienna.

The UK delegation presented a draft resolution on enhancing international cooperation in the identification and reporting of new psychoactive substances (doc. DS 1008/13), explaining that this resolution was a follow-up to the broader resolution on new psychoactive substances adopted at the 55th CND session and that it was based on the European early warning system model, aiming to make it more global.

The DE delegation presented a draft resolution on promoting the development and use of the international electronic import and export authorisation system for licit international trade in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances (doc. DS 1011/13), reminding the delegations that the BE delegation started the process of electronic authorisation by submitting a resolution for the 55th CND session. The speaker explained that the draft resolution was aiming at ensuring that proper resources were allocated for the functioning of such a system.

The FI delegation informed the meeting that they were also preparing a draft resolution for the 56th CND session concerning drug profiling. The delegations were requested to provide their comments on the draft resolutions by 18 January 2013.

6. EU-Brazil dialogue on drugs

The representative of the EEAS explained that the proposal to have the first EU-Brazil dialogue on drugs on 10 January 2013 has been recalled by the EU side as no response was received from Brazil in due time. The speaker informed the meeting that Brazil had reiterated its interest in holding the meeting as soon as possible and the Presidency agreed to propose 19 April 2013 as a new date to organise this meeting.

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7. Dialogue on drugs with Western Balkans and EU-Western Balkans Action Plan on Drugs

The representative of the Commission reminded that the EU-Western Balkans expert dialogue on drugs would be held on 26 February 2013. As the current EU-Western Balkans action plan on drugs will expire by the end of this year, the meeting will focus on updating it and this update could be endorsed during the EU-Western Balkans ministerial meeting this autumn. She explained that the decision concerning the form of this update was still to be taken together with Western Balkan representatives and informed the meeting about the plans to launch a stocktaking exercise in this area, during which Member States would be asked to give information on their bilateral assistance in Western Balkans.

The AT delegation presented the results of the "Drug policing Balkan" project, started in 2009 and aiming at combating organised crime along the Balkan route, in the framework of which three conferences and nine operational meetings to form joint investigation teams were organised. The speaker mentioned an intention to launch a follow-up project.

8. EU-Central Asia Action Plan on Drugs

The representative of the EEAS reminded the delegations that the current EU-Central Asia action plan on drugs was expiring by the end of this year, therefore a stocktaking exercise was launched with a view to updating this action plan. Delegations were asked to notify the EEAS about their bilateral assistance to the region by 1 February 2013 at the latest. The meeting was informed that some indications concerning the new action plan were already received from Uzbekistan. The delegations were also informed that a new phase of CADAP project would be launched this spring and were called upon to express an interest in participation.

9. Bolivian re-accession to the 1961 UN Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs

The delegations shared their positions on the above-mentioned issue.

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10. Any other business

- Implementation of the European pact against synthetic drugs: state of play

The PL delegation informed the meeting about the above-mentioned issue, presenting the results of the EMPACT project on synthetic drugs achieved in 2012 and the planning for 2013.

Updating the list of National Drugs Coordinators

The Presidency reminded the delegations that the National Drugs Coordinators' meeting would be organised on 8-9 April 2013 in Dublin and asked to update the contacts of their national drug coordinators.

European summer school on drugs

The representative of the EMCDDA informed the meeting about the above-mentioned summer school to be organised on 1-12 July 2013 in Lisbon, asking the delegates to inform those possibly interested in participation.

Launching of the joint EMCDDA and Europol report on drug market

The representative of the EMCDDA informed the meeting that a joint EMCDDA and Europol report "The European Drug Market-A Strategic Analysis" would be launched soon.

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