

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 21 May 2013

9307/13

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OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

Of:	Meeting of Technical Committee of the EU-CELAC Mechanism on Drugs
On:	17 April 2013
Subject:	Summary of discussions

1. Adoption of the agenda

The meeting adopted the agenda as set out in doc. CM 2248/13.

2. Developments in antidrug policies

a) Presentation of the EU Drugs strategy 2013-2020 and other EU developments

The EU co-presidency gave an overview of the new EU Drugs Strategy 2013-2020 and the development of the Action Plan on Drugs for 2013-2016. The representative of the Commission informed the meeting about drug-related legislative proposals and the development of drug supply indicators and the representative of the EMCDDA presented the EU drugs market report, outlined in doc. 5421/13 CORDROGUE 8 ENFOPOL 13 + ADD 1

b) Presentation of the developments in the CELAC by interested delegations

New Andean Community Strategy on drugs

The Ecuadorian delegation gave an overview of the above-mentioned Strategy, including measures to tackle drug supply and drug demand and promote sustainable alternative development, which might be approved by the respective ministers in the course of the year. The speaker explained that the new Strategy would institutionalise work on drugs by establishing an executive and a technical committee on drugs and that a follow-up mechanism to monitor the implementation of the Strategy was also foreseen.

- Central American Security Strategy in relation to Drugs (SICA)

The Costa Rican delegation presented the above-mentioned Strategy, aiming to achieve an acceptable security level in the region, which was based on four pillars, including law enforcement; prevention; rehabilitation, reintegration and prison management and institutional strengthening, coordination and monitoring. The delegate reminded that the Strategy had 14 priorities with more than 100 activities foreseen and noted that the activities were also based on a will to harmonise regional legislation. The speaker also thanked for the support provided by the EU and its Member States.

- High Level International Conference on Alternative Development

The Peruvian delegation presented the outcomes of the above-mentioned conference held on 14-16 November 2012 in Lima, which adopted the Lima Declaration on Alternative Development and the International Guiding Principles on Alternative Development. The speaker named the most important principles and reminded that these principles were later submitted to the 56th CND session and adopted as the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development.

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The Chilean delegation reminded that during the XIVth High Level meeting Chile expressed an intention to start a drug traceability project and presented the developments in this respect. The speaker noted that technical assistance was required from countries which had experience in the establishment of drug profiling systems.

c) Bi-regional developments

- 1st EU-CELAC Summit and update on the EU-CELAC Action Plan 2013-2015 in relation to Drugs

The Chilean delegation gave an overview of the results of the above-mentioned summit held on 26-27 January 2013 in Santiago and the adopted declaration which among other issues stressed the need to promote south-south cooperation, to identify the most effective strategies to combat the world drug problem in all its dimensions and to tackle corruption.

- 11th meeting of the High Level specialised dialogue on drugs between the EU and the Andean Community

The Ecuadorian delegation presented the results of the above-mentioned meeting held on 30-31 October 2012 in Quito, after which a joint communication was issued, covering the issues addressed during the meeting and stating the need to reinforce the dialogue. The Peruvian and Colombian delegations emphasised the importance of having a specialised EU-Andean Community dialogue on drugs and continuing to hold regular meetings. The representative of the EEAS welcomed the positive developments in the Andean Community.

3. Preparation of the XVth High Level meeting of the EU-CELAC Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs (Ecuador, 13-14 June 2013)

The CELAC co-presidency informed the delegations about organisational aspects of the abovementioned meeting, also announcing the deadline for registration.

9307/13 JV/fm 3 DG D 2C **EN** The CELAC co-presidency suggested a number of possible topics for thematic debates during the High Level meeting including alternative development, prevention and new research methodologies in the field of drug abuse. In response the EU side proposed discussing links between drug trafficking and other criminal activities, effectiveness of drug policies and parental substance misuse.

The CELAC co-presidency proposed to cover a few topics during the thematic debates and to make the presentations on the rest of topics. The representative also noted that progress had been achieved in preparing the draft Quito declaration, which should soon be sent to the EU side.

The EU co-presidency presented the annual report on the EU-CELAC cooperation, contained in doc. DS 1042/13 and asked the delegations to provide their comments on the document by 6 May 2013 with a view to issuing a revised version for the next Technical Committee meeting.

4. Overview of EU-CELAC cooperation activities

a) Support to the fight against drugs under the new EU Multiannual Financial Framework (2014-2020)

The representative of the EEAS informed the delegates that the possible future form of cooperation to support the fight against drugs was currently discussed internally and noted that the forthcoming High Level meeting would provide a good occasion to exchange ideas on this issue.

b) Cocaine Route programme (including PRELAC)

The representative of the Commission updated the delegates on the latest developments within various components of the above-mentioned programme, announcing that the website of the programme was functional and reminding that the mid-term review of the implementation of the programme was launched in October 2012, which would provide ideas for better implementation of the programme in the future. The speaker also announced that 6 million euro had been committed to fund AIRCOP phase 3, under which new countries in Africa and Latin America would be addressed, and that the contract would be signed at the end of the year. She also noted that Latin American states could be also involved in SEACOP programme, e.g. by providing training to colleagues from West Africa.

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c) EU-Andean Community cooperation activities

The representative of the EEAS gave an overview of the projects aimed at the Andean Community, reviewing the progress achieved with the PRADICAN project and noting that a new project PREDEM foreseen for a period of 40 months and with a budget of 6.5 million euro was under preparation and would start later this year. On behalf of the Andean Community, the Ecuadorian delegation invited the EU to continue to strengthen the cooperation.

d) COPOLAD

- Substantive information on how COPOLAD helps to strengthen the EU-CELAC Mechanism on Drugs

The representative of the Commission informed the meeting that the budget of COPOLAD programme was increased by 580,000 EUR with the main aim of supporting the Mechanism and explained that these funds would allow to organise an additional conference, complete extra technical studies and translate more documents and publications to English. The representative also announced the launch of the mid-term evaluation of the COPOLAD programme to be performed by independent experts, in the framework of which a number of field visits mainly to Latin American and Caribbean countries would be organised in June and July.

The representative of the COPOLAD programme informed the delegates about further progress in implementing the programme, reminding about the creation of an e-room to facilitate the communication within the Mechanism. He also announced that the airplane ticket to participate in the forthcoming COPOLAD annual conference, to be financed by COPOLAD for a limited number of delegates from the CELAC and EU, could also be used to participate in the High Level meeting of the Mechanism.

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- Perspective of the participation of the Caribbean countries

The representative of the Commission explained that the current legal set up did not allow covering the expenses of Caribbean countries for their participation in the regional programmes, such as COPOLAD, adopted under the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI) aimed at Latin American countries. However, it was reminded that COPOLAD activities were open to participation of Caribbean countries, but needed to be covered through other means (possibly through the European Development Fund) on a case- by-case basis. The speaker announced that the Commission's proposal for the new DCI, which was still under the negotiation by the Council of the EU and the European Parliament, included a new clause which would allow extending the coverage of DCI programmes to countries such as the Caribbean countries.

5. Any other business

No issues were covered under AOB.	