

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 7 October 2013 (OR. en)

14461/13

CORDROGUE 96 COEST 304

"I/A" ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	COREPER/Council
No. prev. doc.:	14182/13
Subject:	EU-Central Asia Action Plan on Drugs (2014-2020)
	= mandate for endorsement

- 1. In 2009, the Council endorsed the Action Plan on drugs between the EU and the Central Asian republics (doc. 9961/09 CORDROGUE 27 COEST 180). As this Action Plan expires by the end of this year, the EEAS initiated at the end of 2012 a stocktaking exercise on the implementation of the current Action Plan. Taking into account the results of this exercise the EEAS prepared a new draft Action Plan in March 2013.
- 2. Following the balanced approach of the EU drugs policy, the new Action Plan addresses with equal vigour both drug demand and drug supply reduction and also indicates a number of priorities and key actions in the fields of Information, Research and Evaluation and Wider Regional Cooperation. It represents continuity of the EU policy and long term engagement with Central Asian partners to help further strengthen their national policies in drug demand reduction and in combating illegal drugs supply and related organised crime.

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- 3. The draft Action Plan was revised on the basis of comments provided by the Horizontal Working Party on Drugs and submitted to the Central Asian countries for their comments. After a few rounds of exchange of comments, the last comments from Central Asian states were presented during the HDG meeting on 12 September 2013 and the revised version of the Action Plan was approved by the HDG delegations through a written procedure on 4 October 2013.
- 4. Subsequently, the EU-Central Asia Senior Officials' meeting to be held on 12 November 2013 in Brussels will be invited to endorse the new Action Plan.
- 5. Against this background, COREPER is requested to invite the Council to mandate the Presidency to negotiate on the basis of the EU-Central Asia Action Plan on Drugs (2014-2020) set out in document 14182/13 CORDROGUE 92 COEST 297 + COR1 and to endorse it during the EU-Central Asia Senior Officials' meeting and to report to COREPER only in case of major changes to the Action Plan.

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