



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 4 June 2012

**12635/02
EXT 1**

**PESC 377
COAFR 72
ACP 128
DEVGEN 131**

PARTIAL DECLASSIFICATION

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Delegations will find attached the partially declassified version of the above-mentioned document.



ANNEX

**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 3 October 2002
(OR. EN)**

**12635/02
EXT 1 (04.06.2012)**

**PESC 377
COAFR 72
ACP 128
DEVGEN 131**

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From : Africa Working Group
Dated : 17-18 September 2002
In : Brussels

No. prev. doc. : 11247/02

Subject : Report of the Africa Working Group meeting

I Operational conclusions

EU - Africa Dialogue:

Preparation for 5th Bi-regional meeting in Rabat:

- The Presidency again invited all chefs de file to submit a short summary on the 8 issues (max. 15 lines) to be included in a draft communiqué for the Ouagadougou Ministerial meeting end of November and that they will be invited to present the subject at the Rabat meeting. An EU coordination meeting will take place in Rabat on Monday 23 September (COP/690/02 COR 1)

EU Platform for AU/NEPAD relations (post-Lisbon):

- The Presidency, having taken due note of partner's wish not to present it formally to the African side at the Rabat meeting, will revise the paper (COP/764/02) in the light of comments made by partners and finalise it by Coreu preferably before the Rabat meeting.

Election observation:

- Kenya: The Group took note of the exploratory Mission leaving on 18 September and recognised HoMs report and recommendations therein.
- Madagascar: The Group noted the Commission's intention to send an exploratory mission and expressed support for observing the elections.
- Nigeria: The Group endorsed the recommendations of the HoMs report.
- Cameroon: The Commission took note of the request for support of elections in 2004

Eritrea:

- The Presidency would explore further possibilities for compromise and will revert shortly by Coreu (the Commission has now put the discussion of the CSP on the agenda for the EDF Committee on 24 September, underlining that the EU approach outlined in the Presidency compromise proposal (COP/760/02) remains valid for the time being, subject to further legal clarification of the links between the EDF procedures and Article 96 consultations).

Sudan:

- Following comments from partners the Presidency will revise the non-paper together with the Commission to be circulated by Coreu in view of a speedy finalisation.

Nigeria:

- The Presidency will circulate the HoMs report on the outcome of the confidential demarche and keep partners informed about the political dialogue meeting in Maputo. Future EU actions will be guided by the discussions held at COHOM in order to guarantee a coherent and consistent approach.

Cameroon:

- The Presidency will instruct HoMs to include the case of Mr. Simo Sop Aubert Claude in the regular political dialogue in the context of human rights questions and to follow up by Coreu.

Equatorial Guinea:

- The Presidency will continue to explore the possibility of a joint EU - US demarche and clarify an appropriate timing (not at the opening of the US Embassy in Malabo).

Mano River Union:

- Sweden will circulate a Coreu on the talks of SR Dahlgren with Sierra Leone, Liberia, Guinea, US and UN representatives while in New York.
- Further to the discussion on the draft on a "EU coherent approach" and a Commission note on this subject the Presidency will circulate a revised version under a silence procedure.
- Partners were requested to forward to the Presidency information on bilateral contributions to the peace process in the MRU countries.

GREAT LAKES REGION

- Presidency will via Coreu circulate drafts for demarches to be made in Kinshasa, Kigali, Pretoria and the UN urging parties to adhere to their commitments and to engage in confidence building measures, thereby keeping up the pressure on the parties. Demarches to be carried out by the local HoMs or the SR.
- Presidency will via Coreu circulate drafts for demarches to be made in Kinshasa, Kigali and Kampala urging Congolese parties to resume the dialogue and conclude an all inclusive agreement. Demarches to be carried out by the local HoMs or the SR.
- Presidency will circulate previous report on the Regional Conference on the Great Lakes region for comments in time before the meeting with UN Assistant SG Ibrahim Fall in Brussels on 16 October.
- The Presidency will via Coreu circulate a proposal for the extension of the mandate for EUSR Aldo Ajello.

DRC:

- Presidency will via Coreu raise the question of whether the EU arms embargo on the former Zaire adopted on 7 April 1993 should be lifted or if not, whether the export of equipment with a humanitarian purpose should be exempted.

Rwanda:

- In conformity with the recommendations made in their last report, Presidency will invite HoMs and the SR to continue a constructive and critical dialogue. They will be requested to approach relevant representatives of the government to discuss issues contained in their recommendations and report regularly on a Bi-monthly basis on these meetings until after the elections next year. Subjects to be covered by the dialogue range from human rights, freedom of expression and possibility of creating political parties, internal and external problems in Rwanda.
- Presidency will invite HoMs in Kigali to prepare a first draft of the review of the Common position (2001/799/CFSP) and to indicate a possible calendar before its Council adoption.
- The Commission will respond positively to the request election observation in Rwanda in 2003.

Burundi:

- Presidency will circulate draft declaration in time for the regional summit on 6-7 October condemning the use of violence and appealing for the conclusion of an all inclusive cease-fire agreement.
- Presidency will invite HoMs in Bujumbura, in Dar-es-Salam and the SR to establish a regular and more structured dialogue with the respective governments and other relevant parties and to report regularly to the Group on the outcome of these meetings.

Malawi:

- Presidency will request a HoMs report on the political situation in the country for discussion at the working group meeting in the beginning of October.

II Other points

1. EU - Africa Dialogue:

Preparation for 5th Bi-regional meeting in Rabat:

- The Presidency recalled all relevant communication by Coreu for the preparation of the Rabat meeting (in particular the official invitation COP/748/02), agenda (COP/531/02) and the EU coordination meeting on Monday, 23 September (COP/690/02 COR 1)).
- It was agreed in Copenhagen that all chefs de file would prepare a summary (max. 15 lines) on their subject to be included in the Ouagadougou communiqué. Further drafting will take place in Rabat and the agreed issues would be annexed to the communiqué. Ireland recalled its position that it does not wish to annex the recent paper on HIV/AIDS to the communiqué. Instead, the paper from the Ministerial meeting in Brussels will be annexed.
- **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

EU Platform for AU/NEPAD relations (post-Lisbon):

- In the opinion of most partners recent developments in Africa (AU and NEPAD) should allow for a more positive approach in the relations and a better focus on subjects relevant for both sides. The political dimension of the dialogue has to be strengthened without creating additional structures and fora: The EU has to make sure that the African process is supported in a coherent way at all levels: dialogue on different topics at different levels with different actors in a flexible framework should be the objective.
- With regard to the draft EU-Platform partners agreed on the approach, however, some had doubts whether it could be finalised in time for presentation to the African side in Rabat (even in an informal way).

- The Presidency established a silence procedure for further comments by Coreu to Thursday 19 September 1200Z and would on that basis endeavour to present a revised draft. The Presidency found it useful to hand something in writing to the African side, the timing of the would be considered as soon as there was an agreed text.

2. Election Observation:

NOT DECLASSIFIED

Horn of Africa

3. Eritrea

Following the conclusions of the Director's meeting in Copenhagen the Presidency circulated a compromise proposal on a way forward in the dialogue with the Eritrean Government (COP/760/02). **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

NOT DECLASSIFIED

4. Sudan

The Presidency has circulated a "non-paper" on EU-Sudan relations beyond Machakos prepared together with the Commission which outlines developments in the peace process and the perspectives for the near future and the time after a peace agreement. In view of Sudan discussions at the PSC beginning October, the Presidency emphasised that agreement on this joint proposal should be reached by Coreu.

Many partners welcomed the paper stressing that the Council conclusions adopted in June and the agreed benchmarks still provide the ground for relations until a peace agreement would be established. They also agreed that the EU has to prepare in time for the situation of a peace agreement and the paper has to leave sufficient flexibility to take account of the results of peace talks and the respective implementation of an agreement.

NOT DECLASSIFIED

The Commission underlined the importance of a clear position on whether or not to resume cooperation if there is an agreement and that aid should be unlocked taking into account that a new interim government will have a different position on the objectives of 2002 (benchmarks). There will be enormous need for capacity building for a new administration.

Depending on the resumption and results of peace talks the Presidency considered a possible re-scheduling of the Troika, originally planned for December. This question will be followed in the light of developments.

WESTERN AFRICA

5. Nigeria

NOT DECLASSIFIED

6. Cameroon

NOT DECLASSIFIED

7. Equatorial Guinea

NOT DECLASSIFIED

NOT DECLASSIFIED

SOUTHERN AFRICA

8. Zimbabwe

NOT DECLASSIFIED

WESTERN AFRICA

9. Mano River Union

NOT DECLASSIFIED

GREAT LAKES REGION

10. DRC

NOT DECLASSIFIED

NOT DECLASSIFIED

11. Rwanda

NOT DECLASSIFIED

12. Burundi

NOT DECLASSIFIED
