



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 12 July 2012**

**12404/12**

**CORDROGUE 54**

## **OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS**

Of:	Preparatory Meeting between the EU and the Andean Community in view of the XIth High Level Meeting of the Specialised Dialogue on Drugs between the European Union and the Andean Community
On:	4 July 2012
Subject:	Summary of discussions

### **1. Adoption of the agenda**

The meeting adopted the agenda as set out in doc. CM 3659/12.

### **2. Overview of the drugs situation in both regions with particular focus on recent developments**

A representative of the EMCDDA informed the meeting about the recent trends in the consumption and trafficking of the most popular drugs in Europe. He emphasised that treatment had been the biggest success over the past years and expressed satisfaction with the range of treatment services provided. However, the speaker noted that there were major differences among the EU Member States in this respect. Also, differences existed in drug policies of various EU Member States as in some of them drug consumption was criminalised, while in others it could result in an administrative offence. He also noted that still a large number of drug users ended up in prisons, the majority of them being accused of drug consumption and only a minority with drug trafficking.

A representative of the Commission updated the delegates on the state of play of different legislative proposals and other measures outlined in the Commission Communication "Towards a stronger European response to drugs" (doc. 15983/11 JAI 769 CORDROGUE 70 SAN 211).

The Presidency of the Andean Community (CAN) noted that synthetic drugs were one of the biggest problems they faced and that they were also produced in the CAN countries. He promised to share more complete information on the drug situation and drug policy developments in the CAN during the High Level meeting.

### **3. Update on cooperation activities: state of play of ongoing programmes and of projects, especially PRADI-CAN**

The representative of the Commission reminded the delegates that the financial agreement between the Commission and the CAN for the PRADI-CAN project was signed at the end of 2009. It foresaw the project to run until November 2012 and to contain the following four components: strengthening national drug observatories, facilitating the dialogue on drug related issues between civil society and governmental bodies, supporting the capacities of forensic laboratories of the CAN countries and precursor control. The speaker also reminded that there had been significant delays in the implementation of the project, which resulted in little activity during the first two years of its implementation. However, currently there was progress and a number of activities were ongoing, including conducting an epidemiological study on drug consumption among the university population and setting up an information network concerning the common indicators. Also, some equipment was purchased for the laboratories to help in detecting and identifying drugs.

The speaker also announced that a new project concerning drug demand reduction for the CAN with a budget of 6.5 million euro was being developed, which the Commission would like to launch in the beginning of next year. The project might focus on three activities, notably support for the activities carried out by civil society and subnational authorities in drug prevention, treatment and rehabilitation; support for the national drug observatories in drug related research and monitoring and support for the national and regional drugs policy formulation. The speaker also explained that taking into account certain shortcomings experienced with the implementation of the PRADI-CAN project, the new project would be carried out by the UNODC office in Lima, in close cooperation with the CAN countries and CAN General Secretariat.

The Presidency of the CAN noted that despite the difficulties experienced at the beginning of the implementation of the PRADI-CAN project, the project would be finalised successfully and most of the foreseen activities would be implemented. He also emphasised that the project had contributed significantly to improving the government response level and increasing the capacity of police and judicial sectors. The Presidency expressed concerns that the new project would not cover some of the areas funded by the PRADI-CAN project, which required continuity.

In response to the question from the UK delegation, a representative of the Commission explained that funding arrangements for the forthcoming financial period concerning the CAN were still under negotiation, however, there would be changes compared to current arrangements.

#### **4. Preparation for the XIth High Level Meeting of the Specialised Dialogue on Drugs between the European Union and the Andean Community**

The Ecuadorian delegation informed the meeting that the High Level meeting would be held in Quito, Ecuador, on 30-31 October 2012 in a centrally located hotel. The delegations discussed the possible topics proposed for the meeting (doc. DS 1491/12) and the EU Presidency suggested to present the progress in drafting the new EU Drugs Strategy during the meeting. Several proposals were made to merge some topics and to eliminate the topic on judicial cooperation as it was recently discussed during the EU-CELAC High Level meeting of the Cooperation and Coordination Mechanism on Drugs and it was agreed to select the most important topics out of the ones proposed. The Ecuadorian delegation promised to send the invitations to the meeting as well as the draft agenda and the EU Presidency promised to discuss the draft agenda during the HDG meeting and to come back with their comments.

#### **5. Any other business**

No issues were discussed under AOB.

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