



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 14 August 2012

**14638/06
EXT 1**

**PESC 1030
COAFR 236
ACP 195
DEVGEN 281**

PARTIAL DECLASSIFICATION

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



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 30 October 2006
(OR. en)**

ANNEX

**14638/06
EXT 1 (14.08.2012)**

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OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

from : Africa Working Group meeting

on : 12 October 2006

in : Brussels

No. prev. doc. : 13913/06

Subject : Report

I. OPERATIONAL CONCLUSIONS

Horizontal issues

1. Mainstreaming Human Rights into Political Dialogue under article 8 of the Cotonou Agreement

The Group:

- took note of the call to mainstream human rights and of actual progress made in mainstreaming human rights into the political dialogue under Article 8 of the Cotonou Agreement on the basis of a table prepared by the Presidency and encouraged HoMs to raise relevant human rights issues in political dialogues systematically;
- endorsed the recommendations made by the Presidency in its non-paper on Art. 8 dialogue with focus on Human Rights (coreu HEL 0638/06);
- took note of comments made by the Commission and Member States to this non-paper, **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

- invited the Commission, in cooperation with the Council Secretariat, and taking into account comments provided by delegations, to prepare for COAFR a short paper as guidance for conducting the Article 8 dialogue, including to ensure a more systematic dialogue on the essential elements, in particular human rights;
- agreed to revert to this issue before the end of the year on the basis of the guidance paper.

2. Preparation of the EU-African Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development, Tripoli, 22-23 November 2006

The Group:

- was briefed by the President of the Council's High Level Group on Migration on the preparations under way for the EU-African Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development scheduled to take place in Tripoli on 22-23 November 2006;
- was informed that the first preparatory meeting with AU troika took place in the margins of the AU-EU Ministerial troika meeting in Brazzaville on 9 October;
- took note of a document with elements to the Political Declaration to be adopted at the Conference, which will be finalised by the High Level Group on Migration, who remains the Group with the primary responsibility for the preparation of this document;
- had a first exchange of views on the elements for discussion, where it was stated that the added value of this Conference is that this covers all African countries. As such, this Conference should not be a repetition of the Rabat Euro-African Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development, but should build on its constructive spirit.
- took note of the invitation for COAFR delegates to attend the meeting of the High Level Working Group on Migration of 19 October and further meetings of this Group, and agreed to revert to the issue on 8 November at Director's level.

3. Preparation of the EU-ECOWAS Ministerial Troika meeting, Niamey, 27 October 2006

The Group:

- was briefed on the ongoing preparations of the EU-ECOWAS Ministerial Troika meeting to be held in Niamey, Niger, on 27 October 2006;
- took note of the draft agenda as proposed by ECOWAS, circulated by COREU SEC/2155/06 the draft communiqué circulated as a room document and endorsed both documents as the basis for further discussion with ECOWAS;
- invited the Member States to present their additional comments on the draft agenda by 19 October 2006.

4. Preparation of the EU-South Africa Cooperation Council, Brussels 14 November (preceded by SOM on 18 October in Pretoria and SOM on 13 November in Brussels)

The Group:

- was briefed on the ongoing preparations of the EU-South Africa Cooperation Council and the preceding SOMs;
- considered the proposed agenda for the SOM in Pretoria and for the JCC, circulated by coreu, provided a good basis for further discussion with the South Africans;
- noted that the draft agendas have been discussed also by the ACP Group, which has the mandate on the Items 1-5, while the AWG mainly deals with the Item 6 on Political Issues;

- proposed to add points "Zimbabwe" and "HIV/Aids" as items to be discussed under the Item 6 on Political Issues of the JCC agenda;
- was invited by the Presidency to make further suggestions for amendments to the agenda;
- **NOT DECLASSIFIED**
- took note of the fact that aspects related to the TDCA and the EPA negotiations will be primarily dealt with in the ACP working group.

5. EU Strategy for Africa; Report to the October GAERC and preparation of the Joint Strategy

The Group:

- welcomed the release of the joint CGS and Commission report, to be presented by HR Solana and Commissioner Michel to the October GAERC, on the progress made so far in the Strategy implementation;
- exchanged views on the nature of the joint report emphasising that it serves as one element in the preparation of the progress report on the implementation of the EU Strategy for Africa to be presented to the December European Council;
- took note of Member States readiness to participate in the preparation of the progress report;
- agreed to revert to the subject in later discussions.

6. Sudan

The Group

- thanked the EUSR for Sudan for his comprehensive briefing on recent developments, **NOT DECLASSIFIED**;
- thanks the Commission on the briefing of President Barroso's and Commissioner Michel's recent visit to Sudan;
- took note of information provided by the **NOT DECLASSIFIED** delegation concerning the disbursements from the Multidonor Trust Fund and the demarches conducted on this issue with the UN and the World Bank.

7. Somalia

The Group

- thanked the Commission for the information about the initiative by Commissioner Michel to set up a task force to facilitate and support the work of the Committees created by the second round of talks between the Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs) and the Union of Islamic Courts (UIC) ("Khartoum II"); supported this task force and welcomed its work in support of the Khartoum process and requested to be regularly informed about its activities in the future;

- noted that the task force is an ad-hoc informal instrument for providing support to the two parties in the Khartoum process, as well of the intention of the Commission to provide in writing elements outlining some terms of references for its work;
- stressed in particular the need for both parties to respect the agreements reached in the framework of the Khartoum process and to work to ensure that the dialogue continues;
- looked forward to the preparations for the third round of talks between the TFIs and the UIC scheduled for 30 October ("Khartoum III"), as well as to the meeting of the Somalia International Contact Group to take place on 19 October in Nairobi;
- thanked HoMs in Nairobi for the report on the political situation in Somalia (coreu HEL/0635/06) and broadly endorsed the positions and the recommendations contained in the report;
- **NOT DECLASSIFIED**.

8. Ethiopia-Eritrea

The Group

- had an initial exchange of views on the continuing stalemate in the Ethiopian-Eritrean border dispute;
- took note of the decision by the UN Security Council to extend the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) until 31 January 2007, to review the situation of UNMEE before 30 November and of the request to the UN Secretary-General to present updated options for possible changes to UNMEE's mandate;
- took note of the proposal from the **NOT DECLASSIFIED** delegation to play a proactive role in this regard and invited Member States to consider this issue;
- will revert to this issue in due time.

9. Briefing on the outcome of the EU-Africa Ministerial troika meeting in Brazzaville on 10 October 2006

The Group took note of the Joint Communiqué from the meeting and the oral reports from participants.

10. Briefing on the outcome of the EU-US troika meeting in New York on 28 September 2006

The Group took note of the oral and written reports from the meeting.

11. AOB

The **NOT DECLASSIFIED** delegation briefed the Group on the outcome of the "Group of Friends of the Great Lakes" meeting in Ottawa on 4-5 October.

II. OTHER POINTS

6. Sudan

Pages 5 and 6: NOT DECLASSIFIED.

NOT DECLASSIFIED

7. Somalia

The Commission briefed the Group about the current state of the negotiation process between the Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs) and the Union of Islamic Courts (UIC) and in particular the role of the ad hoc task force set up upon the initiative of Commissioner Michel to support the process. The following points can be highlighted:

NOT DECLASSIFIED

8. Ethiopia-Eritrea

At the request of the **NOT DECLASSIFIED** delegation, the Group discussed the state of play in the Ethiopian-Eritrean border dispute, against the backdrop of the EU Troika demarches in Asmara and Addis in August (coreu HEL/0362/06), **NOT DECLASSIFIED**.

10. Briefing on the outcome of the EU-US troika meeting in New York on 28 September 2006

The Secretariat completed the reporting about the meeting provided in coreu SEC/2132/06. **NOT DECLASSIFIED**.
