



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 22 October 2012

**9585/05
EXT 1**

**PESC 449
COAFR 91
ACP 76
DEVGEN 96**

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, 31 May 2005
(OR. en)**

**9585/05
EXT 1 (22.10.2012)**

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OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

from : Africa Working Group meeting at Directors' level
on : 13 May 2005
in : Brussels

No. prev. doc. : 9193/05

Subject : Report

I. OPERATIONAL CONCLUSIONS

Mano River Union

The Group

- heard a briefing by the Special Representative of the Presidency, Hans Dahlgren, on current developments in the Mano River Basin, the perspectives for developments in the region, his recent visit there and the contacts held pertaining to the Mano River Union (MRU), as well as on the meeting of the International Contact Group for the Mano River Basin, held in Stockholm on 21 March 2005;
- on Liberia, it took note of the positive developments in the DDR and SSR processes and of the need to ensure that the international community continues supporting the Liberian peace process, especially the reintegration process, the preparations for the elections and the return of the internally displaced;

- noted the desirability to have a new Special Representative of the UNSG for Liberia in place as soon as possible;
- heard a briefing by the Commission on the meeting of international partners on economic governance in Liberia held in Copenhagen on 9-10 May, and emphasised the plea for drawing up a concrete economic governance plan for implementation by the New Transitional Government of Liberia;
- agreed on the need to address the rampant corruption in Liberia in the Ministerial meeting with ECOWAS;
- as far as Charles Taylor is concerned, reiterated that no form of impunity can be permitted and that every person responsible for criminal acts must be brought to justice, and noted the latest developments on this question;
- on Guinea, the Group took note of PSR Dahlgren's concerns and the need to follow closely developments in the country, especially in the framework of monitoring the implementation of art. 96 consultations.
- while noting positive developments in Sierra Leone, agreed that the post-conflict situation and reconstruction efforts were to be kept under close review;
- agreed that all of these topics should be raised at the forthcoming EU-ECOWAS Ministerial meeting by the EU side.

Sudan

The Group

- discussed the joint Commission-Council Secretariat paper on “Elements for an EU Policy on Sudan” (coreu COM/0165/05 COR 1) and expressed wide support for the analysis and the propositions contained in the paper;
- agreed to recommend to the PSC to endorse a revised version of the paper, based on comments made by delegations at the meeting. The revised version should be circulated by coreu prior to referral to the PSC;
- stressed the need to work out an action plan for the EU’s policy towards Sudan with suitable time frames. A reference to such a plan could be made in the revised version of the paper;
- had an informal exchange of views on the text for draft Council conclusions circulated by the Secretariat on behalf of the Presidency, and agreed that further comments were to be made by coreu by 16 May, 15.00Z, so as to allow PSC to discuss the draft conclusions on 17 May.

Zimbabwe

The Group

- thanked HoMs for their report on the update of EU concerns and benchmarks;
- noted that HoMs had asked for more time to elaborate a more comprehensive report and invited them to update their report as soon as possible, in order to proceed in due time and as appropriate to an in-depth review of the common position;
- endorsed, on the basis of the existing criteria, the names on the travel ban list as updated by HoMs (coreu LUX/0971/05), and to transmit the updated list to the Relex Counsellors for further action, noting nonetheless that the list will be kept under constant review;
- underlined that while no major changes had been noted up to now in the political and social situation in Zimbabwe, the EU should be ready to react, were these to occur;
- **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

EU-Africa relations

The Group

- discussed the prospects of holding an EU-Africa Summit and reviewed the various options in this respect;
- **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

Great Lakes

The Group:

- thanked the EUSR Ajello and the Commission for their comprehensive reports and discussed the recent developments on the ground;
- heard the EUSR's briefing on developments pertaining to the preparation of the elections, SSR and DDRRR in the DRC and on the means available to the EU as contribution to these processes;
- agreed that the EU should react rapidly as soon as the Constitution in DRC was adopted;

- stressed the need for additional support to the transition process in the DRC, especially as far as army integration and SSR are concerned, **NOT DECLASSIFIED**
- welcomed the important role MONUC is playing;
- encouraged the Commission to elaborate an Action Plan on good governance to be worked out with the World Bank and the UN;
- looked forward to a paper on the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, to be circulated by the Presidency, the Secretariat, the EUSR's Services and the Commission, to be discussed at the next AWG.

Côte d'Ivoire

The Group

- thanked the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General in Côte d'Ivoire, Mr Pierre Schori for its briefing. It shared his cautious optimism and took note of his priorities;
- agreed that the mandate of UNOCI should be reinforced politically and materially, so as to cover election preparation.
- agreed to request the Presidency to merge the two draft declarations on the situation in Côte d'Ivoire on the table, taking into account the comments made by Mr Schori, and circulate them by coreu for partners' possible further comments.

II. OTHER POINTS

Mano River Union

PSR Dahlgren briefed the Group about the latest developments in the region. On 12 May, he met with the Foreign Minister of Sierra Leone, Mr Koroma, **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

NOT DECLASSIFIED

NOT DECLASSIFIED

Sudan

The Group continued the exchange of views on the joint Council Secretariat-Commission Policy Paper on Sudan (coreu COM/0164/05 COR 1) which started in the AWG on 3-4 May. Delegations expressed appreciation of the paper, seen as a welcome opportunity to bring together all elements and instruments related to the situation in Sudan. **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

NOT DECLASSIFIED

NOT DECLASSIFIED

Zimbabwe

The Group discussed the review in light of the parliamentary elections, to be undertaken in conformity with the Common Position. **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

EU-Africa relations

The Group agreed on the need to enhance EU's relations with Africa and that holding a Summit would be a key element in this. On the basis of the already stated position that the EU is in favour of a fully fledged Summit in Lisbon as soon as circumstances would allow, the Group continued to discuss possible options looking at the two parameters open to variation, namely format and location. **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

NOT DECLASSIFIED

Côte d'Ivoire

The SRSG Pierre Schori briefed the Group. He reported on developments on the ground after the Pretoria agreement. A number of positive developments had taken place: the withdrawal of heavy weapons from the zone of confidence and discussions on fixing a date for the start of DDR. There is a weekly meeting between the SRSG, the South African mediation and the Prime Minister. **NOT**

DECLASSIFIED

AOB

Ethiopia

NOT DECLASSIFIED delegation drew partners' attention to the human rights situation in the country, as highlighted in two critical reports by Human Rights Watch about Gambella and the Ormera region. It stressed that the EU should be active in this field and that the incoming Presidency should give high priority to this matter.

Eritrea

NOT DECLASSIFIED

Ethiopia-Eritrea

NOT DECLASSIFIED
