



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 25 October 2012

**11869/04
EXT 1**

**PESC 685
COAFR 105
ACP 123
DEVGEN 162**

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



ANNEX

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**Brussels, 6 August 2004
(OR. en)**

**11869/04
EXT 1 (25.10.2012)**

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OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

from : Africa Working Group meeting at Director's level
on : 20 July 2004
in : Brussels

No. prev. doc. : 11548/04

Subject : Report

I. OPERATIONAL CONCLUSIONS

Great Lakes

1. International Conference for the Great Lakes Region

The Group:

- thanked EUSR Ajello for his briefing on the meeting of the National Co-ordinators of the AN/AU Conference on the Great Lakes (see coreu SEC/1554/04) that took place on 14th and 15th of July and agreed with the conclusions in his report of the Nairobi preparatory meeting;
- noted the efforts of the EUSR Aldo Ajello and of UNSG Special Envoy Ibrahima Fall to assist in the organisation of the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region;
- noted the progress achieved in various areas. It expressed its concern, however, at the enduring issue of the membership of the core group, and urged the Presidency to continue working for a solution;

- will continue to closely monitor the decision making process regarding the Conference;
- welcomed the contributions to the conference **NOT DECLASSIFIED** urged other member states to contribute as well;
- noted the growing interest in the Group of Friends (GoF) and welcomed the special status as partners, which will be given to the GoF and the EU in this context;
- noted the progress achieved in the framework of the GoF, as regards financial and organisational questions, as well as on substance;
- noted the need to convene a meeting of the GoF as soon as possible, preferably back-to-back with the meeting of the Regional Preparatory Committee in September.

The Presidency promised to keep the Group informed about the financial and organisational aspects of the further preparation of the Conference.

2. DRC

The Group:

- thanked SR Ajello for his briefing and report (SEC/1504/04);
- thanked HoMs for their report on nationality law (HAG/347/04) **NOT DECLASSIFIED**
- requested HoMs to closely monitor this process;
- invited HoMs to continue to develop ideas on how to intensify political dialogue;
- underlined the importance of supporting the JVM and of monitoring the situation in the East very closely as well as in Kinshasa;
- welcomed the discussion-paper of the Presidency on the review of the MONUC mandate (coreu HAG/0438/04);
- agreed to continue the discussion on MONUC by coreu with a view to arrive at a united EU position on the MONUC mandate;
- underlined the need to review MONUC's mandate and to strengthen it qualitatively as well as quantitatively. It also emphasised the need to keep working on ways to increase the effectiveness of our support to the MONUC;
- welcomed the progress on the implementation of Integrated Police Unit (IPU) in Kinshasa.

3. Rwanda

The Group:

- expressed grave concern at important dimensions of the political development in Rwanda, in particular the Parliamentary Report on the Ideology of Genocide and the Government's failure to protect those organisations and Rwandans that have been accused in the report;
- noted that Rwanda is passing through a painful post-genocide transition, in which there is a need for continuous and broadening political dialogue;
- stressed the importance of a unified European position on developments in Rwanda and cooperation with other players as well;
- agreed to continue by coreu the preparation of the intensified political dialogue with Rwanda;
- noted that the EU might have to engage with Rwanda at a high political level;
- noted in this connection with concern the draft report by the Group of Experts on the implementation of resolution 1533;
- noted that it is the intention of the Presidency to draft terms of reference for a démarche on the parliamentary report on the ideology of genocide with the Rwandan Government, which should be part of a broader political approach to Rwandan society.

4. Burundi

The Group:

- expressed its ongoing concern about the situation while, at the same time acknowledging positive developments;
- noted progress with FNL, as well as the need to keep pressure on this organisation. Presidency will do this bilaterally but also encouraged other MS to do the same. Pressure has to consist of a balanced political approach to all forces;
- noted the importance of the meeting between the UNSGSR and FNL that took place on 18th and 19th July in Nairobi as well of the series of meetings that is taking place in Pretoria from the 18th July between the parties constituting the Burundese Transitional Government and the Facilitator, Deputy President Zuma of South Africa;
- expressed commend and support for the work of the UNSGSR for Burundi, Ms. Carolyn McAskie.
- commended Minister Zuma's work and other regional initiatives. The EU should keep its dialogue with regional initiatives;
- will continue to follow closely the processes of DDR and SSR;

- agreed on the need for EU member states and the Commission to enhance support for the SSR and DDR processes;
- noted the need to continue of the support to the electoral process through technical support and political dialogue.

West Africa

5. Côte d'Ivoire

The Group:

- expressed great concern at the continuous instability in the country. It also stressed the need for concerted European action **NOT DECLASSIFIED**
- thanked HoMs in Abidjan for their proposals (HAG/0434/04) and invited partners to comment on them by coreu. Presidency will elaborate on these proposals with a view to discuss them in the next AWG (September).

East Africa

6. Sudan/Darfur

The Group:

- took note of the report by the Presidency/Policy Unit on progress made in Addis Ababa and of the reporting provided on the meeting of the UN-Government of Sudan Joint Implementation Mechanism in Khartoum;
- noted that a political dialogue had now started and concluded that there is a basis for its continuation;
- asked the Presidency and the Policy Unit to closely monitor progress on the Government of Sudan's fulfilment of the demands set in the GAERC Conclusions of 12 July;
- welcomed the Presidency's intention to circulate draft council conclusions to be adopted by the GAERC 26 July, stressing the support for the AU along the lines of the decisions taken by PSC on 23 July and calling for reinforced humanitarian support, financially and in logistical terms and stating consolidated EU support for the AU monitoring mission and peace negotiations;
- stressed the need to continue and increase political pressure on the Government of Sudan and on the rebels;
- underscored the need for the EU to remain active in presenting a consistent position together with the AU and the US vis-à-vis the Government of Sudan and on the rebels;

- stressed the need to explore all possibilities for dialogue with the Government of Sudan and the rebels;
- asked the Presidency to convey a clear message in the meeting of the Dutch Foreign Minister with the Foreign Minister of Sudan on 24 July.

Horizontal issues

7. HIV/AIDS

The Group:

- thanked Mr de Waal for his presentation, which will be distributed by coreu separately, and signalled the need to continue discussions and to formulate an EU policy on security and AIDS. The political dimension of the problem should be underlined at all times;
- agreed to further incorporate HIV/AIDS in the dialogues with AU, ECOWAS, IGAD and SADC;
- agreed to prepare an EU position for the UNSC meeting on HIV/AIDS and security in October 2004;
- noted that the Presidency in cooperation with the Commission will present proposals for a further elaboration of HIV/AIDS issues in the review of the Common Position on Conflict Prevention.

8. AWG performance and effectiveness

The Group had a brief exchange of views concerning the role and performance of the Africa Working Group. The Presidency will circulate a COREU with proposals for improving the effectiveness of the AWG. It was decided to continue the discussion at the AWG meeting at the level of Directors scheduled for 4 October.

AOB

The Commission presented the contents of coreu CFSP/COM/0262/04 on the letter by AU Chairperson Konaré to the EU Commission stating that the AU supports CEMAC's request to use the African Peace Facility for the financing of FOMUC in the CAR.

II. OTHER POINTS

1. International Conference for the Great Lakes Region

1.1 EUSR Aldo Ajello informed the Group about the preparations for the Conference and in particular of the National Coordinators' meeting which took place on 14-15 July in Nairobi. The meeting had been preceded by intense diplomatic preparations in order to solve the problem of the enlargement of the core group with Angola and the Republic of Congo, as for instance the "mini-summit" held at the margins of the AU Summit 5-9 July and the contacts of the Dutch Minister for Development Cooperation Van Ardenne with the Foreign Ministers of Tanzania and Rwanda at the same occasion. **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

1.3 As to the substance of the Conference, the Nairobi meeting gave national coordinators an opportunity to present details of the preparatory activities undertaken up to now. Civil society organisations, especially women and the youth groups, have been particularly active in this respect. Their activities will culminate in the Women's Meeting and the Youth Specialised Meeting to be held in September.

1.4 This was also the last Coordinators' meeting; the next meetings at the regional level will be those of the Regional Preparatory Committee in September, October and November, respectively. They will lead up to the Regional Conference of Heads of State in November and the meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs in December that will prepare the final phase of the Conference. The question of the enlargement of the core group must be resolved quickly if this calendar, which is already very tight, is not to be put at risk. The urgency to put pressure on the parties in order to avoid delays was underlined by several delegations.

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2. DRC

2.1 SR Ajello informed about his meeting with the new US Assistant Secretary of State, Constance Newman, in the margins of the AU summit in Addis (SEC 1504/04). Following the agreement on the establishment of the JVM, many initiatives and meetings had taken place on the matter: Pretoria, Abuja, and Addis Ababa. The US also convened a meeting between the Foreign Ministers of DRC, Rwanda and Uganda in Washington on 14 July (for more details see SEC 1504/04). The main objectives were to discuss the implementation of the JVM and to improve the relations between Rwanda and the DRC. **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

NOT DECLASSIFIED

2.3 The Commission informed about the implementation of the IPU in Kinshasa. It has started to recruit police trainers, the training of trainers will start on 15 August in Kinshasa and the training of policemen themselves will start by the end of August. On JVM, the Commission indicated that if the AU requested funding for a Peace Support Operation in the context of the JVM, this could be considered under the Peace Facility.

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3. Rwanda

3.1 The Group discussed the Report from the Rwandan Parliament on the Ideology of Genocide and effects of this report. **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

4. Burundi

4.1 The Presidency introduced the item underlining that we need to support the peace process intensively and briefed the Group about the Nairobi discussions chaired by the UNSGSR Ms. McAskie. UNSGSR **NOT DECLASSIFIED** Minister Van Ardenne attended the opening ceremony of the harmonisation centre Camp d'Espoir, which is a landmark in SSR (see HAG/0354/04). Presidency will carry out assessment missions to other camps.

4.2 SR Ajello was of the opinion that Ms. McAskie had proved to be an excellent SR and had been able to reanimate the process in a few days. SR Ajello observed that there is a lot of work left to do on the Arusha process. **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

4.3 Belgium informed that a delegation would be leaving next week to work on police reform. Belgium observed that 31 August 2004 was the deadline for the creation of the *Commission Electorale Indépendante* (CEI). **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

West Africa

5. Côte d'Ivoire

5.1 The Presidency introduced the item by referring to the proposals contained in HAG434/04 on possible actions to take by the EU. **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

East Africa

6. Sudan

6.1 The Group held its discussion on the basis of the Presidency's and the Policy Unit (PU) reporting on the first round of peace negotiations between the Government of Sudan (GoS) and the Darfur rebel groups, with the Presidency reporting on the first meeting of the Joint Implementation Mechanism on 15 July and the decisions taken by the PSC on 20 July.

6.2 The PU briefed the Group on the discussion taking place in the PSC on Darfur/Sudan the same day and the operational conclusions of this meeting. **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

6.3 Equally, the Presidency briefed the Group on the first round of negotiations between the GoS and the Darfur rebel groups in Addis Ababa. **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

6.4 The next negotiation meeting is scheduled to take place on 2 August, coinciding with the deadline set by the US for the GoS's compliance with the demands concerning the disarmament of the Janjaweed, full humanitarian access, etc. In the meantime, the mediation team will continue its talks with the GoS and the rebels. **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

6.6 The 15 July meeting also contributed to a further alignment between the AU, EU and the US, making their position clearer. **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

6.7 Conclusively, the Presidency raised the question of the appropriateness of dealing with the Darfur crisis again at the GAERC on 26 July and the issues to be raised in possible Council conclusions. **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

The Presidency also invited partners to continue reporting on their contacts with the parties in preparation of the next round of negotiations between the parties and the next meeting of the Joint Implementation Mechanism. EU HoMs would have to play an important role in this respect. Member States should also be encouraged to participate in the coordination efforts with the AU and the US.

6.8 Most delegation voiced strong support for putting Darfur/Sudan on the agenda of the 26 July GAERC. **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

6.9 As regards the financial aid for the crisis in Darfur, the Commission informed about extra funding, in addition to the 12 million EUR provided from the Peace Facility. Funds amounting to 40 million EUR were currently being disbursed on the ground, and 15 million EUR had been allocated for new initiatives. In addition, funds of 14 million EUR had been allocated in assistance to IDPs in Chad. Belgium informed that an aircraft had been put at the disposal of the humanitarian relief efforts. The Presidency invited Member States to collaborate with the Commission services in updating the information of their contributions to Darfur and to assist the PU in the elaboration of an overview of current support.

Horizontal issues

7. HIV/AIDS

7.1 The Presidency stressed that HIV/AIDS should be an important component of the EU's political and security policy in Africa. The Presidency will soon initiate a discussion on HIV/AIDS in the framework of the AWG. The AIDS ambassador recently went to the Conference in Bangkok. The Netherlands will take over the presidency of the African Partners' Forum in 2005 and will mainstream the issue.

7.2 Alex de Waal presented his research on AIDS and security, starting his presentation with the Ethiopian case. Upon finding out that 6,2% of the army were infected in 1996, a plan had been started under the initiative of the Army Chief of Staff. The plan was based on the responsibility of officers and on screening programmes on a regular basis. The programme had managed to maintain stable rates.

7.3 Mr de Waal then described the negative consequences of HIV/AIDS for a national army: lack of fit units for peacekeeping, lack of discipline and morale, medical issues (blood transfusions) and creating tensions in civilian-military relations. It also has wider effects on society: it affects institutions, social security and increases poverty and criminality. AIDS rates in African armies are 3-4 times those of the local population (with extreme cases such as that of Angola, where 40-60% of the soldiers are infected). Most armies (34 out of 36) introduced some form of mandatory testing. The South African programme, based on several series of tests, intends to reduce HIV/AIDS from 20% to 5%. The Protocol of the AU on the African Standby Force will include an HIV component, which will also be included in an African Common Defence and Security Policy, which is in the process of being finalised.

7.4 Mr de Waal suggested a number of issues for further discussion: 1. Data and statistics: prevalence rates are not as bad as expected but that should not be a reason for complacency. 2. Mandatory testing seems to be the preferred option for the African military **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

3. Who will deal with the matter in the AU, sub-regional and troop contributing countries. 4. Budgetary implications: how will these expensive programmes be financed e.g. through the Peace Facility or the Global Fund?

7.5 The Commission informed that the EDF had earmarked 255 million EUR for a thematic initiative on Reproductive Rights and Poverty. Commission underlined the importance of cooperating closely with the AU and welcomed the progress made so far. It suggested including the issue in the EU-Africa dialogue at the upcoming Troika meetings. Mr de Waal informed the Group that the former Chief of Army in Ethiopia is currently working with the AU on an HIV/AIDS policy.

8. AWG performance and effectiveness

8.1 The Presidency explained its wish to promote further reflections on the role and the performance of the AWG, **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

Given the lack of time, it was suggested to discuss the matter at the Directors meeting 4 October with a previous exchange of ideas by coreu.

8.2 Delegations broadly supported the Presidency's ideas, noting for instance the problem of overlapping meetings in the AWG and the PSC. The discussion should however be properly prepared, as changes to the format of the AWG could imply significant problems of coordination. **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

AOB: Central African Republic

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