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NOTE

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to:	Horizontal Working Party on Drugs
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Subject:	Joint Communication of the High Level Specialised Dialogue on Drugs between the EU and the Andean Community

Delegations will find in annex the Joint Communication adopted during the above-mentioned meeting held in Quito, on 30-31 October 2012.

**XI MEETING OF THE HIGH-LEVEL SPECIALIZED DIALOGUE ON
DRUGS CAN – EU
QUITO-ECUADOR**

JOINT DECLARATION

The Andean Community, composed of its four Member States¹, and the European Union, composed of its twenty-seven Member States², have held the XI Meeting of the High-Level Specialized Dialogue on Drugs CAN - EU, on 30th and 31st October 2012, in Quito - Ecuador.

This dialogue is a further step towards the consolidation of the political ties and bi-regional cooperation, from which has emerged the need for strengthening the existence of this Mechanism, which enables the integration, the promotion of human rights, the fundamental recognition of the widely recognized international principles, the protection of the environment and the development of bi-regional relations, taking into account that the search for mutually acceptable and convenient solutions corresponds to each and every one of the actors committed to deal with the world drug problem.

We have also reaffirmed the need to recognize the real human and economic costs which States, Governments and populations have been confronted to, in order to provide a solution to a multidimensional problem.

We have identified future cooperation as a tool that contributes substantially to the implementation of the principle of common and shared responsibility, with desirable and effective impact. We have also agreed to strengthen and harmonize bi-regional cooperation in order to deepen the impact of public policies that we are implementing in the field of drugs. As such, we ratify our commitment to consolidate the various programmes and cooperation projects, being implemented or to be implemented, on the basis of the criteria of relevance and sustainability.

Both our regions are pleased by the advances of the bi-regional cooperation in the framework of the projects PRECAN³ and DROSICAN⁴, as well as the PRADICAN⁵ project being implemented, and the project PREDEM⁶ in its final

¹ Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Perú

² Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, United Kingdom, Romania and Sweden.

³ "Prevention of the diversion of the chemical precursor used on the production of illicit drugs in the Andean countries"

⁴ "Support for the Andean Community in the Area of Synthetic Drugs"

⁵ "Anti-illicit Drugs Programme in the Andean Community"

phase of formulation. Likewise, we welcome the meeting held in Lima in April of this year, to revive bilateral agreements on chemical precursors between the countries of the Andean Community, Chile and the European Union.

We are convinced of the importance of coordination, based on a shared vision between the two regions, the comprehensive implications of the world drug problem and of priority problems for debate and mutual cooperation. We agreed to explore the possibilities for enhancing the efficiency of the Dialogue, which will contribute to the strengthening of the bi-regional relationship.

The European Union welcomes and highlights the formulation and presentation of the Andean Strategy on the World Drug Problem 2012-2019, and its Plan of Action, which is in the process to be considered by the Andean Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs, for approval by decision.

The Andean Community wishes success in the ongoing negotiation of the new European Union Drugs Strategy 2013-2020 which, in conjunction with the Andean Strategy 2012 - 2019, become the next pillars that support the bi-regional cooperation in this field, through the strengthening of joint actions which reflect clearly the commitment of our countries, the political will and the capacity to identify a clear and measurable path to follow in the coming years, reflecting a balanced approach between drug demand and supply reduction policies.

We are confident that the bi-regional relations will continue to evolve fruitfully and that we will be able to face this difficult problem which affects humankind as a whole, through joint efforts that generate ways of mutual support, improving the functioning of the technical and financial bilateral and bi-regional cooperation, the exchange of experiences, lessons learned and good practices, in order to intensify and make the bi-regional action to deal with the world drug problem more effective.

At the conclusion of this important bi-regional event, we, the Andean Community and the European Union, have agreed to hold the XII Meeting of the High-Level Specialized Dialogue on Drugs in Brussels, at a mutually agreed date, preferably in the course of next year.

Quito, October 31st, 2012

⁶ "Support for the Reduction of Illicit Drug Demand"