



Brussels, 14 July 2016  
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## OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
On: 23 June 2016  
To: Delegations

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Subject: Outcomes of the Horizontal Working Party on Drugs

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### 1. Adoption of the agenda

The meeting adopted the agenda as outlined in CM 3232/16 with the addition of the following point under AOB: Presentation of the outcomes of the project on new psychoactive substances.

### 2. Information from the Presidency on:

– *the outcomes of the 2016 High-Level Meeting on Ending AIDS*

The Presidency reported on the above-mentioned event, held on 8-10 June 2016 in New York, outlining the difficulties as regards the discussions on risk and harm reduction and civil society participation at the meeting.

– *the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development*

The Presidency informed the meeting about the above-mentioned event to be held on 8-20 July 2016 in New York, which was the first meeting aimed at discussing the implementation of the Sustainable Development Agenda.

### **3. Preparation for the 2019 review process**

Delegations welcomed the updated Presidency's conclusions on UNGASS 2016 on drugs and the preparation for the 2019 global drug policy review and further discussed the way forward (WK 452/2016 REV 1). Delegations emphasised the necessity to focus on the implementation of the recommendations outlined in the UNGASS outcome document and also stressed the need to ensure the monitoring of the progress with implementation. Again, the need to start the preparation for 2019 early was emphasised. Delegations further welcomed the idea of establishing the informal expert group to help the Presidencies to prepare for the 2019 global drug policy review. Also, it was stressed that the process at the UN level was no less important than the content.

### **4. Discussion on the draft legislation on new psychoactive substances**

Delegations further discussed the revised NPS directive, provided by the Presidency following the COREPER's endorsement of the change of the legal basis to Article 83 TFEU on 6 April 2016 and agreement that the provisions containing information exchange and risk assessment should be hosted under the revised EMCDDA Regulation. Delegations agreed with the simplified definition of new psychoactive substances and discussed the procedure for subjecting these substances under control measures and the time necessary to transpose these EU decisions into national legislation (WK 458/16).

### **5. Preparation for the Dublin Group meeting**

The French delegation outlined the agenda of the above-mentioned meeting to be held on 30 June 2016 and invited delegations to participate actively in this meeting (CM 3099/16).

### **6. Report on**

#### *– the EU-CELAC High Level meeting*

The Presidency reported on the above-mentioned meeting held on 16-17 June 2016 in the Hague, especially as regards the negotiations on the Hague declaration (outlined in doc. 10680/16) which emphasised the need to further continue the dialogue with the CELAC countries.

#### *– the Annual conference of COPOLAD II*

The Presidency gave an overview of the above-mentioned conference held on 14-15 June 2016 in the Hague, back to back to the EU-CELAC High Level meeting.

– *the EU-US videoconference on drugs*

The Presidency also reported on the above-mentioned videoconference held on 22 June 2016.

**7. Presentation of the calendar and priorities of the incoming SK Presidency**

The incoming Slovak Presidency presented the priorities in the field of drugs to be addressed during their Presidency and gave an overview of the HDG and related meetings to be held in the forthcoming 6 months. The meeting was also informed about the National Drug Coordinators' meeting to be held in Bratislava on 19-20 October 2016.

**8. AOB**

The CY delegation presented the outcomes of the project “New Psychoactive Substances: Building Knowledge and Evidence Base Training Through Research”.

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