



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 4 June 2014
(OR. en)**

10329/14

CORDROGUE 39

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From: General Secretariat of the Council
On: 5 and 6 May 2014
To: Horizontal Working Party on Drugs
Subject: Summary of discussions

1. Adoption of the agenda

The meeting adopted the agenda set out in doc. 2518/14 with the addition of the following AOB points:

- Concerns about the drug treatment in Crimea;
- Participation in the Ministerial Meeting on Countering the World Drug Problem;
- Launch of the Eurobarometer study on Youth attitudes on drugs;
- Reporting on the national measures taken to subject 4- methylamphetamine to control measures and criminal penalties.

2. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on new psychoactive substances

The Presidency presented a summary of the delegations' answers to the questions outlined in Presidency's discussion paper doc. DS 1181/14 on the above-mentioned draft Regulation.

A discussion on the risk assessment system for classifying new psychoactive substances was held with the majority of delegations advocating for the two-tier risk assessment system. A few delegations defined alternative proposals for risk classification system, and the delegations agreed to further look into them. The representative of the Commission emphasised that their proposal and alternative proposals for the risk classification system were all aiming at having dangerous substances removed from the market as soon as possible. Some delegations recalled the advantages of the generic approach towards classifying new psychoactive substances and the representative of EMCDDA explained the difficulties in gathering scientific evidence to support such approach.

The delegations also discussed the role of EMCDDA in the risk assessment process, also as regards the increasing workload due to the growing number of new psychoactive substances to be assessed and the necessary resources.

3. Risk assessment reports on new psychoactive substances: 25I-NBOMe, AH-7921, MDPV and methoxetamine

The representative of EMCDDA presented the risk assessment reports on the above-mentioned new psychoactive substances, outlined in doc. 8960/14 CORDROGUE 20 SAN 174, doc. 8961/14 CORDROGUE 21 SAN 175, doc. 8962/14 CORDROGUE 22 SAN 176 and doc. 8963/14 CORDROGUE 23 SAN 177, informing the meeting that AH-7921 was associated with 15 deaths and reported in 6 non-fatal intoxications, while methoxetamine was associated with 20 deaths and 121 non-fatal intoxications, 25I-NBOMe was associated with 4 deaths and alone or mixed found in 32 non-fatal intoxications and MDPV was associated with 108 deaths and 525 non-fatal intoxications.

4. Preparation for UNGASS 2016

– *Presentation by the Civil Society Forum on Drugs (CSF)*

The representatives of the CSF gave feedback on the High Level and ordinary session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, also as regards the inclusion of the abolition of the death penalty and risk and harm reduction into the text of the Joint Ministerial Statement. The speakers emphasised the importance of involving civil society in the preparation for UNGASS 2016 and in that context, reiterated their recommendation for a civil society task force to be convened ahead of the Session.

During the discussion on the interaction between the HDG and CSF, some delegations mentioned the participation of interested HDG delegations in the plenary meeting of the CSF in June 2013 as a good example of cooperation. As regards the more detailed rules for interaction, the representative of the CLS recalled that third party participation in the working party meetings was already defined by the Council Rules of Procedure.

– *Discussion on the EU priorities and organisational issues*

The Presidency presented its discussion paper on preparation for UNGASS 2016 (doc. DS 1202/14), outlining some proposals as regards preparing for the Session, on which delegations requested further clarification. The delegations discussed the EU priorities, with some delegations emphasising the importance of the EU defining and sharing good practices with third countries in this process.

5. Preparation for the XVIth High Level meeting of the EU-CELAC Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs

The Presidency presented the draft agenda of the above-mentioned meeting to be held on 18-19 June 2014 in Athens and the progress on negotiating the draft Athens declaration, outlined in doc. DS 1046/3/14 REV 3.

6. Preparation for the Dublin Group meeting

The FR delegation presented the agenda of the above-mentioned meeting to be held on 7 May 2014, outlined in doc. CM. 2522/14.

7. Preparation for the EU-US expert dialogue on drugs

The Presidency informed the delegations about the above-mentioned meeting to be held on 8 May 2014, in the morning session (doc. CM 2491/14).

8. Preparation for the EU-Western Balkans expert dialogue on drugs

The Presidency informed the delegations about the above-mentioned meeting to be held on 8 May 2014, in the afternoon session (doc. CM 2457/14).

9. Presentation of the Italian Presidency priorities

The incoming Italian Presidency presented their priorities in the field of drugs, including achieving progress on the draft Regulation on new psychoactive substances, preparing for UNGASS 2016, tackling the misuse of prescribed medicines and developing minimum quality standards in drug demand reduction.

10. AOB

– Concerns about the drug treatment in Crimea

Delegations expressed serious concerns about the announcement of Russian authorities that methadone was to be removed from clinics and hospitals in Crimea, noting that due to its efficiency methadone was the substance most widely used in developed countries in substitution treatment of opioid dependence and pointing out that such a move could deteriorate the drugs situation. The FR delegation informed the meeting about the mission initiated in the framework of the Pompidou group to address this situation.

– ***Participation in the Ministerial Meeting on Countering the World Drug Problem***

Delegations discussed the participation in the above-mentioned meeting to be held in Moscow on 15 May 2014.

– ***Launch of the Eurobarometer study on Youth attitudes on drugs***

The representative of the Commission informed the meeting that the 5th edition of the above-mentioned survey would be launched in the forthcoming months.

– ***Reporting on the national measures taken to subject 4- methylamphetamine to control measures and criminal penalties***

The representative of the Commission recalled the request for the Member States to report on the national measures taken to subject 4-methylamphetamine (4-MA) to control measures, and encouraged the Member States who have not yet done so, to report.
