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AMLAT 9
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PARTIAL DECLASSIFICATION

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Subject: Report Latin America Working Party

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



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 27 January 2010
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**5803/10
EXT 2 (17.07.2014)**

**AMLAT 9
PESC 97
PVD 4**

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From : Latin America Working Party
date: 12 January 2010
No. prev. doc. : 5579/10
Subject : Report Latin America Working Party

I. OPERATIONAL CONCLUSIONS

2. EU - LAC Summit (Madrid): preparatory meetings, organization, documents, logistics, additional sub-regional Summits

The Presidency gave an update on the logistic preparations for the Summits.

4. Regional Agreements

- EU - Andean countries Multi-party Trade Agreements: political clauses

NOT DECLASSIFIED

6. Paraguay: Request to HOMs for a report on the political situation

The Group requested HOMs to prepare a report on the political situation, for discussion at the meeting of 2 February 2010.

7. Honduras

NOT DECLASSIFIED

The Group agreed to the proposal of several delegations to instruct accredited HOMs in Tegucigalpa to establish contacts with President Lobo's team after 27 January.

8. EU - CARIFORUM Political Dialogue (SOM): Agenda

The Presidency informed about its intention to organize a political dialogue meeting, as foreseen in the Lima Declaration, at SOM level, at a date to be confirmed, but separately from EPA Council.

9. Cuba: Framework of relations with the EU

NOT DECLASSIFIED

II. OTHER POINTS

1. Spanish Presidency: Presentation

The Presidency presented the draft work programme for the semester, along the lines of COREU CFSP/MAD/0018/10. It pointed at the following main tasks ahead: 1) Negotiations of the agreements, 2) Summit preparations, 3) Follow up of the political situation in the region, 4) Political consultations with 3rd countries, and 5) the annual review of the Common Position for Cuba. The Commission expressed its conformity with the Presidency's methods and priorities.

2. EU - LAC Summit (Madrid): preparatory meetings, organization, documents, logistics, additional sub-regional Summits

The Presidency announced that both EU-LAC and sub-regional Summits will take place in Madrid, at the IFEMA complex. They will be preceded by a preparatory SOM meeting on 15-16 May and a Ministerial meeting on 17 May, starting with lunch. EU-LAC Summit will take place on 18 May, preceded by an official dinner on 17 May hosted by HM the King of Spain.

Chili and CARIFORUM Summits will take place on the 17 May. Mercosur, Central America and Andean Community Summits will take place on 19 May.

The format of the plenary as well as the documents for the Summit will be discussed in a SOM preparatory meeting on 3 March.

The Presidency will provide hosting for Heads of Delegation and Ministers of Foreign Affairs, as well as 1 car and 1 mini-van per delegation.

3. EU - Brazil Ministerial Meeting (Madrid, 15 February): Presentation

The Presidency informed on the EU-Brazil Ministerial meeting that will take place in Madrid, on 15 February 2010. It will be the first ministerial meeting under the framework of the Strategic Partnership. The meeting is not intended to prepare for the IV EU-Brazil Summit, but will be the opportunity to hold a thorough political dialogue. The Presidency proposed that an agenda along the following lines should be submitted to Brazil: Iran, MEPP (**NOT DECLASSIFIED**), UNASUR (including its Defence Council), EU-Mercosur Association Agreement, implications of the Lisbon Treaty, Climate change, and Human Rights in a multilateral context. At the request of delegations, Visa waiver agreements with certain EU Member States and Preparations for the G20 Summit should also be included. The Presidency did not intend to negotiate a joint declaration, which should be replaced by a short press statement. The Group agreed.

One delegation stressed that in view of the refusal of two LA countries to sign the Copenhagen declaration, climate change issues should be a priority in every agenda with the LAC side so as to put pressure on them.

Concerning Visa issues, the Commission informed of a forthcoming meeting with the Brazilian Ambassador, later this month, to review ongoing issues.

4. Regional Agreements

- EU - Central America Association Agreement: state of play

The Commission informed on a meeting held with a number of CA countries to negotiate a calendar for negotiations, which was fixed as follows: a round on 22-26 March, and a closing session on 14-24 April (Political Dialogue and Cooperation on 14-16 April). Other technical meetings on trade issues were also scheduled, beginning with a meeting of Chief Negotiators on 1-3 February, in Brussels. To fulfil this calendar, two urgent decisions are required: **NOT DECLASSIFIED**, the second on the inclusion of Panama in the negotiations along a scheme SIECA +1, since Panama is not ready to join the Central America Customs Union. This modality would require the adjustment of the negotiation directives which, according to the Council Legal Service, the Council is free to change if it so wishes, through a Note to the Council. The Commission concurred with the Presidency on the importance of incorporating Panama to this Agreement. **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

Delegations supported the Presidency's and Commission's approach on Panama and Nicaragua. One delegation stressed that the Association Agreement was a means of putting pressure on Honduras to return to democratic order, and that the first steps of Lobo's government should be carefully observed before any decision is reached on the return of Honduras to the negotiating table.

- EU - Andean countries Multi-party Trade Agreements: political clauses

Some delegations requested additional time to study the texts of the political clauses, whose translation had been circulated the day before.

The Commission informed that the next negotiating session will take place in Lima on 18-22 January 2010, and the political clauses would be discussed. The text of the HR clause is almost agreed, **NOT DECLASSIFIED**. The WMD clause has not yet been discussed officially, though preliminary reactions indicate that no problems are to be expected. The paragraph on disarmament - whose inclusion the Group agreed - is intended to meet Colombia's concerns, and **NOT DECLASSIFIED**.

NOT DECLASSIFIED

5. Electoral processes:

- **Presidential and parliamentary election in Bolivia (December 6th, 2009): Debriefing, EU EOM first conclusions**
- **Presidential and parliamentary election in Chile (December 13th, 2009): Debriefing**
- **Presidential and parliamentary election in Costa Rica (February 7th, 2010)**

The Presidency informed on the above mentioned electoral processes.

7. Honduras

The Group convened on the need for a coordinated and agreed reaction to the invitation received by all Member States, Commission, Council President and HR to attend the inauguration of President Lobo. It was convened that under the current circumstances, a high level attendance was to be excluded. **NOT DECLASSIFIED**. It should also be advisable to know the intentions of the LAC partners. **NOT DECLASSIFIED**.

NOT DECLASSIFIED

The Presidency informed that it was working on the possibility of organizing, after Lobo's inauguration, a group (consisting of the Presidency, the HR, EU Member States observer at the OAS and EU Member States with diplomatic representation in Honduras) to consult with LAC countries within the framework of the OAS.

8. EU - CARIFORUM Political Dialogue (SOM): Agenda

The Presidency informed about its intention to organize a political dialogue meeting, as foreseen in the Lima Declaration, at SOM level, at a date to be confirmed, but separately from EPA Council. A Seminar on EU-Caribbean relations will take place beforehand.

Several member States expressed support for this approach. The French delegation also announced the intentions of the French government to organize a Summit on the Caribbean in 2011, in coordination with member States.

9. Cuba: Framework of relations with the EU

NOT DECLASSIFIED.

At the request of one delegation, the Presidency confirmed the evaluation of the Common Position will take place in June according to current practice.
