



**Brussels, 2 October 2014
(OR. en)**

13823/14

**JAI 731
CORDROGUE 73
SAN 366**

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From: General Secretariat of the Council
On: 25 September 2014
To: Delegations of the Horizontal Working Party on Drugs
Subject: Summary of discussions

1. Adoption of the agenda

The meeting adopted the agenda set out in doc. **CM 4153/14** with the addition of the following AOB point: Preventing internet sales of new psychoactive substances to minors.

2. Preparation for UNGASS 2016 - preparation for the forthcoming intersessional meeting in Vienna

The delegates further shared the views on the CND Chair's non-paper presented during the 5th intersessional meeting on 4 September 2014 in Vienna, especially as regards the proposed topics for the high level workshops at UNGASS 2016 and the possible outcomes of UNGASS 2016. A number of delegations welcomed the CND Chair's non-paper as a good basis for starting the preparation of UNGASS 2016. The delegations considered UNGASS 2016 to be a good opportunity to take stock of the global drugs policy and review the progress, at the same time reflecting about the future of the policy. They also emphasised that it provided a unique opportunity for the EU to present its achievements in drugs policy.

Four informal working groups to prepare for UNGASS 2016 were established, which will work online in a flexible manner to prepare draft EU contributions for UNGASS, to be later examined by the HDG.

The Presidency requested the delegations to provide written comments on the proposed topics of high level workshops and possible UNGASS 2016 outcomes by 3 October 2014 at the latest, with a view to discussing the draft EU contribution for the forthcoming intersessional meeting at the HDG meeting on 8 October 2014.

3. Preparation for the EU-US expert meeting on drugs

The Presidency presented the proposed draft agenda (doc. DS 1398/14) of the above-mentioned meeting, to be held on 5 November 2014.

4. Report on the EU-Russia expert meeting on drugs

The Presidency gave an overview of the above-mentioned meeting held on 11 September 2014, the outcomes of which are contained in doc. 13385/14 CORDROGUE 68 SAN 351.

5. Minimum quality standards in drug demand reduction

The Presidency updated the delegates on the establishment of the informal working group on minimum quality standards in drug demand reduction, emphasising that experts involved in this working group must have experience in developing standards in this field. The speaker also presented the proposed calendar for the work of the expert group, noting that in December the experts were expected to present the first draft paper on the possible minimum standards for the further discussion at the HDG, which would be then passed to the incoming LV Presidency.

The representative of the EMCDDA stressed that developing such minimum quality standards would be useful not only for the EU, but these standards could also be shared with the third countries and could influence their policies.

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

The Presidency recalled the alternative proposal for risk assessment and classification system, presented during the last HDG meeting and the delegations further examined this proposal. They agreed on the value of information sharing through EMCDDA and Europol, which also played a critical role in supporting the national risk assessment processes, and focused among other issues on the suggested amendments to the system of data provision to EMCDDA and Europol, on the possible amount of risk assessment procedures to be conducted at the EU level in the framework of the new mechanism, on the proposed categories for classifying substances and on the possibility to take more stringent measures as well as to keep the measures already taken.

7. AOB:

– Information on civil society

The Presidency informed the meeting about the plans to invite the representatives of the Civil Society Forum on Drugs for a presentation on UNGASS 2016 at the November HDG meeting and the delegations endorsed this proposal.

– Change in certifying authority issuing certificates to carry narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances

The NL delegation informed the meeting about the above-mentioned change, also noting that the EU-wide list of such authorities could be updated. The representative of the Commission explained that making changes to the list would trigger debate on a new legal instrument and invited the incoming Presidencies to search for a solution.

– Preventing internet sales of new psychoactive substances to minors

The Presidency informed the meeting that a campaign to prevent minors from buying new psychoactive substances on internet was launched in Italy and invited delegations to share information on specific national legislation or guidelines in this field.