



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 20 May 2015
(OR. en)

7250/03
EXT 1

AMLAT 25
PVD 23
PESC 126

PARTIAL DECLASSIFICATION

of document: 7250/03 RESTREINT

dated: 10 March 2003

new status: Public

Subject: Report from Latin America Working Group

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



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 10 March 2003

**7250/03
EXT 1 (20.05.2015)**

**AMLAT 25
PVD 23
PESC 126**

REPORT

from : Latin America Working Group

dated : 4 March 2003

No. prev. doc. : 7199/03 AMLAT 24 PVD 22 PESC 124

I. OPERATIONAL CONCLUSIONS

1. COLOMBIA:

- Exchange of views with UN Special Advisor for Colombia, James LeMoyne
- HOM's report on request for EU assistance in peace process with AUC Groups
- HOM's report on Human Rights

The Presidency will circulate a draft answer to the request of the Colombian MFA for EU assistance, in the light of the discussions held under this item.

2. BOLIVIA:

- Situation
- Government's request for bilateral co-operation

The Group will continue to discuss the request, in the light also of the coming HOMs report.

3. ECUADOR:

- HOM's report on internal situation

The Group took note of the report. It decided to request HOMs to further elaborate the final paragraph of their report and return to the matter at a future meeting.

4. HAITI:

- **HOM's report on Human Rights**
- **Possible EU contribution to a crisis settlement**

The Presidency will circulate a draft EU declaration, on the basis of Coreu PAR/102/03), which should be released before the demarche of the High-level Group of Friends of Haiti foreseen for 10 march.

5. GUATEMALA:

- **Preparation of the CG meeting (doc. 6676/03 EU RESTRICTED)**

The Group agreed in general on the elements in the COM note and the HOMs report on the matter, and asks COM to circulate a draft declaration via Coreu, to be released as an EU position at the CG meeting, or, in case of unexpected postponement of the CG, as EU declaration. The group following suggestion by HOMs, decided to authorise the latter to embark as soon as possible on a dialogue with the Guatemalan Government.

6. POLITICAL DIALOGUE WITH THIRD COUNTRIES:

- **Report and recommendations to PSC**

Discussion will be resumed in a separate Coreu. The final recommendations to the PSC will be circulated in a separate COREU for general approval.

7. PREPARATION OF THE EU-LAC SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING

The Group agrees to suggest to the LAC side to discuss the eventual follow -up to point 31 of the Political Declaration of the II EU-LAC SUMMIT ("migration") at the next EU-LAC SOM; the EU draft agenda for the SOM will be modified accordingly and transmitted to the LAC side.

8. A.O.B.

- **Political situation in Venezuela**

The Group will continue to discuss the situation at its next meeting.

II. OTHER POINTS

1. COLOMBIA:

- **Exchange of views with UN Special Advisor for Colombia, James LeMoyne**

Mr. LeMoyne gave a detailed report on what he considers a major crisis of international concern and threat for neighbouring countries. As new elements, he quoted the Government's reference to UNSC resolution 1373 on terrorism, and growing regional awareness and request for action.

He urged the EU to become more active in the field of humanitarian action

NOT DECLASSIFIED; Colombia had become one of the top ten countries with refugee problems.

NOT DECLASSIFIED

- **HOM's report on request for EU assistance in peace process with AUC Groups**
- **HOM's report on Human Rights**

Delegations largely concurred with the conclusions of the HOMs, as well as the assessment of Mr. LeMoyné, any answer should be very cautious but indicate that the international community's response will depend on what the Government does **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

2. BOLIVIA:

- **Situation**
- **Government's request for bilateral co-operation**

Various delegations and COM indicated they have legal difficulties with budgetary support, but assistance might be given in other ways, such as condoning debt, cooperation funds. Some wanted to see first the Government's new economic package and its approach to deal with social matters to avoid future instability. Also, Bolivia should first settle the problem of the 1,4 billion USD existing donors' commitments. One delegation indicated it could give 2 million budgetary support under the condition that Bolivia reached an agreement with the IMF on 15 March.

3. ECUADOR:

- **HOM's report on internal situation**

Delegations stressed that all political actors must keep channels of communications open to avoid evolutions like in neighbouring countries. So called "national dialogue" should not replace democratic institutions.

4. HAITI:

- **HOM's report on Human Rights**
- **Possible EU contribution to a crisis settlement**

Delegations agreed that in the light of the continuing degrading situation, a very clear message of the Group of Friends was indispensable. The acceptance of the suggested assistance was a test for the President's seriousness to restore democracy.

5. GUATEMALA:

- **Preparation of the CG meeting (doc. 6676/03 EU RESTRICTED)**

General agreement on the need for a balanced EU approach on a long-term basis and a clear message that all political players are involved. Cooperation should be redirected toward those areas where implementation of the Peace Accords is weakest. If the next Government reacts positively, a sector wide approach including budgetary support could be indicated as a sign of reward and confidence. HOMs should request a formal commitment on the date and venue for the second CG.

6. POLITICAL DIALOGUE WITH THIRD COUNTRIES:

- **Report and recommendations to PSC**

See separate Coreu.

7. PREPARATION OF THE EU-LAC SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING

General preference for a joint study on migration instead of a high level meeting.

8. PREPARATION OF THE MINISTERIAL MEETINGS IN VOULIAGMENI

So far, most delegations intend to be represented at Vouliagmeni at MFA, Deputy minister or Secretary of State level.

9. A.O.B.

- **Venezuela**

NOT DECLASSIFIED

- **Peru**

Most delegations were asked by the Peruvian embassies how they would react in case ex-President Fujimori would put foot on their territory. General answer, that Interpol rules would be applied.
