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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)/Council
No. prev. doc.:	10371/15 REV 1 10118/15
Subject:	Draft Council conclusions on the implementation of the EU Action Plan on Drugs 2013-2016 regarding minimum quality standards in drug demand reduction in the European Union

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1. In the field of drug demand reduction, one of the priorities of the EU Drugs Strategy 2013-2020<sup>1</sup> is to develop and implement quality standards in different areas of drug demand reduction. More specifically, action no. 9 of objective no. 3 of the EU Action Plan on Drugs 2013-2016, doc. 9963/13 tasks the Council, the HDG, the Member States, the European Commission and the EMCDDA to *'agree and commence the implementation of EU minimum quality standards, that help bridge the gap between science and practice, for:*
  - (a) *Environmental, universal, selective and indicated prevention measures;*
  - (b) *Early detection and intervention measures;*
  - (c) *Risk and harm reduction measures; and*
  - (d) *Treatment, rehabilitation, social integration and recovery measures'*

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<sup>1</sup> Policy field 2, paragraph 19.1, 2012/C402/01.

2. During the Italian Presidency of the Council a consultation group composed of experts who have contributed to the development of existing standards in drug demand reduction and stakeholders working in the area was established to draw up a list of possible minimum quality standards in prevention, risk and harm reduction, treatment, social integration and rehabilitation. The expert group took into account the completed and ongoing studies, conferences and events organised on the subject, in particular, the EQUUS project (2011), funded by the European Commission, the work developed by the EMCDDA (2012)<sup>2</sup> and by the UNODC (2013)<sup>3</sup>, as well as the activities undertaken by the Hellenic Presidency, in particular the results of the meeting of the National Drugs Coordinators held in Athens in June 2014.
3. The list of minimum quality standards in drug demand reduction drafted by the above-mentioned expert group was presented and examined at the HDG meetings on 10 December 2014, 13-14 January 2015, 3-4 February 2015 and 25-26 February 2015. This document (doc. 10118/15 CORDROGUE 52) was supposed to serve as a technical document in preparation of Council Conclusions on the subject.
4. During the Latvian Presidency, the draft Council Conclusions on the implementation of the EU Action Plan on Drugs 2013-2016 regarding minimum quality standards in drug demand reduction in the European Union, outlining the minimum quality standards in prevention, risk and harm reduction, treatment, social integration and rehabilitation, were presented and examined during the HDG meetings on 28-29 April, 22 May and 16 June. On 9-10 July 2015 under the Luxembourg Presidency, the working party finalised the text.
5. Consequently, COREPER is invited to confirm the agreement on the text of the draft Conclusions as set out in doc. 10371/1/15 REV 1 and to submit it to the Council for approval.

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<sup>2</sup> The European drug prevention quality standards at <http://prevention-standards.eu/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/EMCDDA-EDPQS-Manual.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> The International Standards on Drugs Use Prevention at [http://www.unodc.org/documents/prevention/prevention\\_standards.pdf](http://www.unodc.org/documents/prevention/prevention_standards.pdf)