



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 20 December 2013  
(OR. en)**

**17485/13**

**CORDROGUE 132**

**OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
On: 9 December 2013  
To: Horizontal Working Party on Drugs  
Subject: Summary of discussions

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**1. Adoption of the agenda**

The meeting adopted the agenda as set out in doc. CM 5499/13 with the deletion of the AOB point on Serious Organised Crime Strategy and the addition of an AOB point on the first meeting of the reference group for drug supply indicators.

**2. Information concerning the proceedings of other EU bodies**

The Presidency informed the delegations about the adoption by the Council of the drug precursor legislation and the EU-Western Balkans joint declaration on enhancing cooperation on drugs and renewing the commitments of the EU-Western Balkans Action Plan on Drugs, which would be later endorsed during the EU-Western Balkans ministerial meeting.

### **3. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on new psychoactive substances**

The delegations further examined the above-mentioned draft Regulation, outlined in doc. 13857/13 CORDROGUE 87 SAN 344 DROIPEN 110 CODEC 2068. The choice of the internal market legal basis, the possibility to keep a generic approach to classifying substances after the adoption of the new instrument as well as the flexibility of Member States to introduce national measures was discussed again during the meeting. The Member States further raised questions about the legitimate uses of new psychoactive substances.

The representative of the Commission recalled the functioning of the notification system on national restriction measures on new psychoactive substances, foreseen in Directive 98/34. He also emphasised that the obligation for the Member States to inform the Commission about national restriction measures introduced on new psychoactive substances was not new, but rather clarified in the draft Regulation.

The delegations discussed the content of the risk assessment, providing some suggestions on the criteria foreseen. The experts also pointed out the difficulties of collecting information on new psychoactive substances, especially as regards their patterns of use, as these substances by definition were new substances. In response to the delegations, the representative of the Commission explained why the threshold for the emergency procedure foreseen in the draft Regulation was rather high and why no deadline was foreseen for the Commission to adopt the decision on the level of risk of the substance, while deadlines were foreseen for other stages of the procedure. The speaker also explained the procedure how this decision would be taken.

### **4. Discussion on misuse of prescription medicines**

The Presidency presented the document summarising the previous discussions on the above-mentioned issue and the delegations' answers to four questions on the topic, outlined in doc. DS 1913/13. The delegations provided further comments on the document, including on its form. The incoming EL Presidency announced their plans to continue dealing with the misuse of prescribed medicines and a deadline of 16 December 2013 was set for providing written comments on the document.

## **5. Preparation for the High Level CND session in 2014**

The Civil Society Forum on Drugs was invited to present their views on the draft Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 High-Level Review. The representatives touched upon such issues which were or should be reflected in the final document as the involvement of civil society, risk and harm reduction, innovative approaches, essential medicines, impact of economic crisis on national drug policies and inclusion of measurable indicators. The delegations requested further clarification on the scope of the concept of "innovative approaches" and asked about the composition of the Civil Society Forum on Drugs as regards the involvement of scientific organisations within the Forum.

The Presidency updated the delegations on the outcome of the intersessional meeting held on 18 November 2013 and the delegations examined certain provisions of the CND Chair's proposal for the draft Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 High-Level Review.

EL delegation presented two proposals for CND resolutions on the impact of economic crisis on provision of essential services in drug policy and on the training needs. A deadline of 16 December 2013 was set for providing written comments on both proposals.

## **6. Presentation of the priorities of the incoming EL Presidency**

The incoming EL Presidency presented the priorities in the field of drugs and the estimated calendar of the working party meetings and meetings with third countries.

## **7. AOB**

### **– *Government Plan for combatting drugs and addictive behaviours 2013-2017***

The FR delegation presented the above-mentioned action plan, which placed a strong emphasis on youth as being most exposed to addictive behaviours and which foresaw different actions in five main fields, including prevention, intensification of the fight against trafficking and better law enforcement.

– *First meeting of the reference group for drug supply indicators*

The representative of the EMCDDA reported on the first meeting of the above-mentioned group held on 3-4 December in Lisbon, informing the delegations that 26 Member States as well as a number of the representatives of EU bodies participated in the meeting.

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