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OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From: General Secretariat of the Council
On: 7 and 8 January 2016
To: Delegations
Subject: Summary of discussions

OUTCOMES OF THE HORIZONTAL WORKING PARTY ON DRUGS

1. Adoption of the agenda

The meeting adopted the agenda as outlined in doc. [CM 5070/15](#) with the addition of the following AOB points:

- The launch of COPOLAD II programme - information by the ES delegation.
- Next meeting of the [Dublin Group](#) - information by the FR delegation.
- Guidance on interpreting the UN conventions - information by the CZ delegation.
- G7 meeting on new psychoactive substances - information by the UK delegation.
- Cooperation with WHO in the context of UNGASS 2016 - information by the SE delegation.
- Legislative changes in Ireland as regards the injecting rooms - information by the IE delegation.

- Event on addressing drugs on internet - information by the Commission.
- Funding of the MAOC - information by the Commission.

2. Preparation for UNGASS 2016

The Presidency reported on the outcomes of the 8th CND intersessional meeting held on 8 December 2015 and the special UNGASS event in the margins of the reconvened 58th CND session held on 9 December 2015 in Vienna. Delegations prepared for the CND intersessional meeting to be held on 27 January 2016 and the forthcoming negotiations on the UNGASS outcome document, once the first draft is available. The meeting also discussed the priorities to be included in the UNGASS outcome document, so that the outcome document could be considered as a success. Delegations recalled the need to have strong risk and harm reduction language and the call for abolition of death penalty for drug-related crimes in the final UNGASS outcome document.

The LU delegation reported on the EU side event to present the EU vision towards UNGASS 2016 held in Vienna on 9 December 2015, which was well attended by delegations participating in the reconvened 58th CND session. The speaker also gave an overview of the informal EU-CELAC meeting held in Vienna on 10 December 2015, which confirmed that the EU and CELAC shared many common points and priorities as regards UNGASS 2016 preparation and outcome, especially on recognition of human rights in the context of drug policies and the importance of health based-approach in this field. Delegations agreed on the need to continue contacts with CELAC delegations and meetings in Vienna in preparation for UNGASS 2016.

The Presidency announced the intention to hold an EU side event at the UNGASS meeting in New York to promote the EU evidence-based approach to drug policies. PT, DE and FR delegation in cooperation with SE delegation informed the meeting about the planned side events to be organised on this occasion.

The Presidency also requested the delegations to identify the representatives to participate at the UNGASS meeting in New York.

3. Preparation for the 59th CND session

The Presidency reported on the outcomes of the reconvened 58th CND session. The delegations finalised the discussion on the draft CND resolution on proportionality for sentences regarding drug-related offences and agreed to submit it as the EU resolution at the 59th CND session.

The Presidency informed the meeting about the initiative to organise an EU side event on COPOLAD during the 59th CND session in Vienna to sum up the results of the COPOLAD I programme and to present the new programme.

The Presidency also requested the delegations to identify the representatives to participate at the 59th CND session in Vienna.

4. Draft legislation on new psychoactive substances

The Presidency informed the delegations about their intention to organise bilateral meetings with HDG delegations so as to clarify the views of the delegations on the way to proceed. A number of delegations supported such an approach. Some delegations also recalled the guidance of COREPER provided during the meeting on 27 May 2015 to work on the legal basis of Art. 83 TFEU. The representative of the Commission noted that they were reflecting on an alternative approach which could gather wider support from the delegations.

5. Proposal to subject new psychoactive substance 1-phenyl-2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)-1-pentanone (α -PVP) to control measures

The representative of the EMCDDA presented the results of the risk assessment report on α -PVP (doc. 14785/15 +ADD1+ADD2) and the representative of the Commission named the reasons for deciding to propose subjecting this new psychoactive substance to control measures (doc. 15386/15). A deadline of two weeks was set for providing written comments on this proposal.

6. Report on the EU-US expert videoconference on drugs

The LU delegation reported on the above-mentioned videoconference held on 2 December 2015, the outcomes of which are contained in doc. 15387/15.

7. AOB

– ***The launch of COPOLAD II programme - information by the ES delegation***

The ES delegation informed the meeting about the launch of COPOLAD II programme, which aims to improve capacity, increase dialogue and promote cooperation between the EU and CELAC.

– ***Next meeting of the Dublin Group - information by the FR delegation***

The FR delegation informed the meeting about the proposal to organise the next Dublin Group meeting on 22 April 2016, back-to-back with the UNGASS 2016 in New York.

– ***Guidance on interpreting the UN conventions - information by the CZ delegation***

The CZ delegation recalled their proposal to draw guidelines for interpreting the UN drug conventions, noting that the INCB could be best placed to do that.

– ***G7 meeting on new psychoactive substances - information by the UK delegation***

The UK delegation informed the meeting about the recent G7 meeting on new psychoactive substances held in the margins of the reconvened 58th CND session, which concluded that an International Action Group on New Psychoactive Substances should be set up.

– ***Cooperation with WHO in the context of UNGASS 2016 - information by the SE delegation***

The SE delegation stressed the importance of the public health dimension while addressing drugs and informed about the forthcoming debate on drugs during the WHO Executive Board meeting, inviting the HDG delegations to cooperate closely with their Geneva colleagues.

– ***Legislative changes in Ireland as regards the injecting rooms - information by the IE delegation***

The IE delegation informed the meeting that the draft legislation allowing the establishment of injecting rooms was in an early stage of preparation.

– *Event on addressing drugs on internet - information by the Commission*

The representative of the Commission informed the meeting about the intention to organise an expert meeting on 7-8 June 2016 in Brussels to discuss drug trafficking on internet and possible action.

– *Funding of the MAOC - information by the Commission*

The representative of the Commission informed the meeting that due to successful activities, a contract with MAOC was concluded on providing to MAOC 2,8 million euro for the forthcoming 36 months.
