



**Brussels, 8 March 2018
(OR. en)**

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CORDROGUE 27
SAN 79**

NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
On: 1 March 2018
To: Delegations

Subject: Meeting of the Horizontal Working Party on Drugs

1. Adoption of the agenda

The meeting adopted the agenda as set out in CM 1708/18, while postponing the AOB item "3rd Brandenburg Forum on Drugs and Development Policies – The run-up towards 2019" (13-15 February 2018) – information from Germany' and adding an AOB item, 'Contribution of the Human Rights Council to the implementation of the joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem'.

2. Preparation for the 61st CND session

– *Draft EU statements*

Delegations further examined four draft EU statements on the UNGASS 2016 follow-up, preparations for the 2019 global drug policy review, UN inter-agency cooperation and the 2009 Political Declaration (WK 1047/18 REV 1, WK 1048/18 REV 1, WK 1050/18 REV 1 and WK 2145/2018). Delegations finalised the statements, which would be fine-tuned by the EU and Member State delegates in Vienna and presented at the March CND session.

– *Discussion on the draft Chair's resolution*

The EEAS representative updated the meeting on the negotiations on the draft Chair's resolution concerning the modalities of the 2019 global drug policy review. Delegations also examined the revised version of the resolution and provided further comments on the text.

Delegations reiterated the importance of the practical implementation of recommendations in the UNGASS outcome document on the ground, and emphasised that the focus should be on implementation rather than on negotiating a new political document. They exchanged views on the possible form of the outcome of the 2019 review, the possible topics for roundtable debates to be held in the ministerial segment of the 62nd CND session in March 2019, and the process of streamlining and updating the Annual Report Questionnaire.

The Commission representative informed the delegates about the contribution that the Civil Society Forum on Drugs had made to the draft Chair's resolution, as outlined in [WK 2483/2018](#).

– *Discussion on draft resolutions tabled by third countries*

Delegations exchanged views on the third country resolutions tabled for the forthcoming CND session.

– *Information on the side events to be held at the 61st CND session*

Delegations exchanged information on the side events to be organised by the EU and Member States at the 61st CND session. In all, 12 EU and Member State events will be organised at the 61st CND session.

3. Alternatives to coercive sanctions

Delegations examined the revised text of the above-mentioned Council conclusions in [WK 13479/2017 REV 3](#). The Working Party endorsed the text with a few amendments, which would be tabled for adoption at the JHA Council meeting on 8-9 March 2018.

4. Preparation for the EU-CELAC Technical Committee meeting (18 April 2018) and XX High Level Meeting of the EU-CELAC Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs (21-22 June 2018, Sofia)

The Presidency informed the meeting that the draft Sofia declaration had been sent to the CELAC side for comments, and asked for proposals for topics for thematic debates at the EU-CELAC High Level meeting, possibly around UNGASS 2016 topics, together with proposals for presentations/information points. A deadline of 19 March 2018 was fixed for submitting proposals. Delegations also endorsed the proposed agenda for the forthcoming EU-CELAC Technical Committee meeting to be held on 18 April 2018 (6459/18).

5. Preparation for the EU-Brazil dialogue on drugs

The Presidency updated delegations on the forthcoming meeting with Brazil to be held on 16 March 2018 in the margins of the 61st CND session in Vienna and presented the new items included on the meeting agenda.

6. Report from the EU-US videoconference on drugs

The Presidency gave an overview of the above-mentioned videoconference on 9 February 2018, the report on which is contained in 6230/18.

7. AOB: Contribution of the Human Rights Council to the implementation of the joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem

The EEAS representative informed the meeting about the discussions on the drug-related resolution at the Human Rights Council.