



Council of the  
European Union

016773/EU XXVI. GP  
Eingelangt am 05/04/18

**Brussels, 5 April 2018  
(OR. en)**

**7629/18**

**CORDROGUE 34  
JAI 264  
SAN 98  
COLAC 13**

**NOTE**

---

From: EEAS  
To: Delegations  
Subject: Report of the EU-Brazil dialogue on drugs

---

Delegations will find below the report of the EU-Brazil dialogue on drugs, held on 16 March 2018 in Vienna, in the margins of the 61st session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

## **5<sup>th</sup> EU-BRAZIL Expert meeting on Drugs**

*16 March 2018, Vienna*

The 5<sup>th</sup> EU-BRAZIL Expert meeting on Drugs was held in Vienna in the margins of the 61st session of the CND on 16 March 2018. The EU delegation was composed of officials of the Presidency, the Council Secretariat, the European Commission, the EEAS, EUROPOL, the EMCDDA, the EU Delegation UN Vienna and some EU MS (DE, EL, ES and PT). The Brazilian delegation included experts of the Brazilian Foreign Ministry, the Brazilian Ministry of Justice and Health, the National Health Regulatory Agency (ANVISA), the Federal Public Defender's Office, the Federal Police and the Brazilian Representation to UN Agencies in Vienna.

The EU and Brazil exchanged views on post-UNGASS developments and the road to the 2019 global drug policy review, developments in drug situations and policies, cooperation under EU supported initiatives such as COPOLAD II, EUROSOCIAL+ and EL PACCTO, including AMERIPOL. Possibilities of a strengthened cooperation, including the ratification of the EUROPOL-Brazil agreement and cooperation between Brazil (ANVISA/ SENAD) and the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) were also discussed.

### **1. Relevant developments of drug policy and update on the drug situation in the EU and Brazil**

Brazil informed on the recently created Ministry of Security, whose future will be decided after the elections. The Government intends to coordinate better military/police/intelligence/customs services in order to fight more efficiently organised crime groups.

Brazil described its serious security challenges (e.g. transnational organised crime groups, Rio situation), including in border security (with 10 neighbouring countries) and its strong interest in regional and international cooperation in strengthening borders and fighting illicit trafficking and organised crime groups.

Brazil has established a fast scheduling system of New Psychoactive Substances (NPS): the decision cycle after notification till scheduling is done by the Health Regulatory Agency (ANVISA) within three months. ANVISA works on the early warning system for NPS with the support of OAS-CICAD.

Brazil provided an update on the drugs situation in the country and also on regional cooperation. Brazil has currently an internal debate on its own drug policy and was interested to know more about the EU and EU MS policies towards Cannabis, notably its medical use.

Brazil continues its police cooperation with Paraguay, Peru and Colombia in tackling drugs cultivation and trafficking, where Brazilian Federal Police helps other countries in eradicating marijuana/coca bush fields. Brazilian Federal Police has seized a significant amount of drugs, trafficking tools (airplanes and submarines) and destroyed several drug laboratories. Dismantling transnational organised crime groups, which are expanding in Brazil, is a priority for the country (PCC gang in particular). Brazil asked about the possibility of EU support in this endeavour, notably in the frame of triangular cooperation to these efforts.

Brazil informed that the cooperation agreement with EUROPOL (signed in April 2017) is still in the process of ratification by the Brazilian Congress. Brazilian Ministry of Health informed about the steps taken to reduce the high HIV rates among drugs users/vulnerable population.

The EU side informed about the current developments in EU drug policies. The Presidency informed about recent developments as regards the EU drug policies, including the adoption of the new legislation on NPS, the launch of Risk assessment on a number of NPS and the adoption of Council Conclusions on promotion of alternative measures to coercive sanctions. The European Commission informed about the new EU Action Plan on drugs 2017-2020, the EU Policy cycle 2018-2021, detailed the new legislative package on NPS and mentioned the evaluation of the EMCDDA.

EMCDDA presented an overview of the drug situation in the EU from its Annual Drugs Report and its finding regarding drug trafficking, consumption and health aspects, including a slight reduction in the number of NPS appearing in the EU market.

EUROPOL reported on its Serious and Organized Crime threat Assessment (SOCTA 2017), which estimates that around 5000 Organised Crime Groups (OCG) operating on international level are currently under investigation in the EU. About a third of these 5000 groups operate in drug trafficking and production. On cannabis, EUROPOL informed that it remained the largest – and still growing - market in the EU. Measures undertaken have been described how EUROPOL intends to enhance drug crime investigations, specifically focusing on the Dark Net, assets recovery and providing additional technical and tactical services (e.g. satellite monitoring of suspicious vessels) to the MS law enforcement. EUROPOL and the European Commission insisted on the need of ratification of the Brazilian cooperation agreement with EUROPOL in order to feed the operational cooperation. Brazilian liaison officer in EUROPOL will be also extremely useful for the benefit of both sides.

## **2. Implementation of the UNGASS Outcome Documents and exchange of views on the preparation for 2019 global drug policy review, including targets and statistical work**

The EU and Brazil had an exchange of views on post-UNGASS, which confirmed that both sides shared the same views that upholding the UNGASS outcome document, also focusing on Human Rights and health aspects of the drug policies, is paramount. Both sides are committed to the implementation of the UNGASS recommendations and look forward to have a clear political outcome of the 2019 event.

### **3. International cooperation in the field of drugs and the prospects for the future**

The European Commission presented the Cooperation programmes COPOLAD, EL PAcCTO and EUROsociAL+, highlighting the active involvement of Brazil in those initiatives. The new regional cooperation programme in preparation “AMERIFRONT”, on border management, was also mentioned.

COPOLAD II will end in 2019 and COPOLAD III is under preparation. The High Level meeting of the EU-CELAC Cooperation and Coordination Mechanism on Drugs and the COPOLAD II annual conference will be held in Sofia, Bulgaria in June 2018. The Brazilian member of the COPOLAD Consortium, SENAD, is expected to participate.

The EU's new regional cooperation programme, "EL PAcCTO", will be launched on 10-11 April in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The programme will work on the whole penal chain (Police, Justice and Prisons), contributing to the fight against transnational organised crime. EL PAcCTO includes AMERIPOL (Brazil has a liaison officer in AMERIPOL). The European Commission reminded that transnational organised crime is a common challenge on both continents and highlighted that EL PAcCTO and AMERIPOL offers a new impetus in the EU-Latin America operational cooperation on this issue.

Brazil presented its projects managed by the Federal Police in cooperating with Paraguay, Peru and Colombia in drug crop eradication and tackling drug trafficking. The country presented also its national activities in controlling airports. Brazil inquired about cooperation possibilities to these efforts.

