



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 26 July 2005**

**11441/05**

**CORDROGUE 50  
AMLAT 60  
COLAT 5**

**NOTE**

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from : General Secretariat  
to : Horizontal Working Party on Drugs  
Subject : Meeting of Technical Committee of EU-LAC Cooperation/Coordination  
Mechanism on Drugs (15 July 2005)

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The aforementioned Technical Committee met on 15 July 2005 under the co-chairs of Mr. Dickson (UK Presidency) and Mr. Chacón (Costa Rica).

**1. Adoption of the agenda**

The committee adopted the agenda as set out in the document CM 2618/05.

**2. Follow-up to the High-Level Meeting of the Mechanism in Lima, 2-3 June 2005**

The delegations discussed the way how to take forward the remits set out in Point 2 of the Lima Declaration, notably, on:

- alternative development: point 2(b) of the Declaration;

The important role of the Mechanism and the commitment of LAC governments to take up the subject were stressed. On the EU side the Presidency informed on the Matrix of EU assistance to third countries that has recently been completed and includes projects on alternative development, principally in the Andean countries. LAC countries were invited to come up with additional specific proposals that could be considered by the EU side.

- further co-operation in the field of intelligence-sharing: point 2(c) of the Declaration; and
- maritime co-operation and aerial surveillance: point 2(e) of the Declaration

The EU Presidency presented an initiative to commence developing intelligence-sharing and maritime cooperation as agreed in the Lima declaration by setting up of an informal working group comprising law enforcement officers from countries participating in the Mechanism. The LAC side welcomed the initiative. They would further study the ideas.

### **3. Preparation of the EU/LAC Conference of Drugs Observatories: Caracas, 19-21 October 2005**

The representative of Venezuela formally invited the delegations to the abovementioned conference. Both the EU and the LAC side would communicate the list of (remaining) countries to give presentations at the conference at the next Technical Committee meeting of 30 September. The names of participants should be communicated to the organizers of the conference by 15 August 2005 at the latest.

The two presidencies of the Mechanism agreed that they would forward the letter by Venezuela inviting for the conference in Caracas to the members of the Mechanism together with an accompanying letter explaining the co-financing of the conference by the Commission, UK and Venezuela.

#### **4. Commission plans for the North South Drugs Budget Line 2005**

The representative of the Commission informed on the 2005 Budget Line. 6 million EUR would be allocated for projects in 2005 including 1,2 million EUR for demand reduction, 900.000 EUR for judicial and police cooperation and 600.000 EUR for projects in alternative development. The call for proposals would be published shortly in which more details would be provided, including possible presentation of projects by beneficiary countries and/or groups of countries. The LAC delegates showed particular interest in their countries' possible participation in the projects. The Commission and the Council Secretariat would inform the LAC countries when the call for proposal is launched.

#### **5. Any other business**

- a) The representative of Colombia presented a proposal to organize a High Level Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the EU and LAC on drugs, which could lead to the adoption of an action plan. The Austrian representative noted that it was indeed their intention as the future Presidency of the EU and co-chair of the Mechanism to hold the next High Level meeting of the Mechanism in March 2006 back-to-back with the CND session in order to ensure high level participation. Both the EU and the LAC side would discuss this matter in their capitals and come back to it at the next meeting.
  
- b) The EU side agreed on the Corrigendum to the Annual Report of the Mechanism suggested by the LAC side (doc. 8653/05 CORDROGUE 26 AMLAT 28 COLAT 2 + COR 1).