



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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**CORDROGUE 44
COLAT 23
AMLAT 60**

NOTE

from:	Presidency
to:	Horizontal Working Party on Drugs
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Subject:	Madrid Declaration

The Presidency forwards to delegations herewith the Madrid Declaration as adopted in Madrid on 27 April 2010 by the twelfth High-Level Meeting of the Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs between the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean region.

1. The delegations from the Member States of the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Presidency of the Council of the European Union, assisted by the General Secretariat of the Council, and the European Commission, meeting under the co-presidencies of Spain and Uruguay in Madrid on 26 and 27 April 2010, at the twelfth High-Level Meeting of the Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs between the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean, with the participation of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, Europol and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC),
2. HAVING REGARD to the Summits of Heads of State and Government of the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Rio de Janeiro (1999), Madrid (2002), Guadalajara (2004), Vienna (2006) and Lima (2008), and with regard also to the Sixth Summit which is to be held in Madrid in May this year;
3. REAFFIRMING the importance of the bi-regional Declarations adopted at the High-Level Meetings of the Mechanism held in Lisbon (2000), Cochabamba (2001), Madrid (2002), Cartagena (2003), Dublin (2004), Lima (2005), Vienna (2006), Port of Spain (2007), Vienna (2008) and Quito (2009);
4. RECOGNISING that the Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs between the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean, an initiative which originated at the Madrid European Council meeting in December 1995 and was formalised by both regions in Brussels in March 1998, is the proper bi regional framework for effectively addressing the world drug problem through dialogue, coordination and cooperation;

5. REITERATING the bi-regional commitment to tackle the world drug problem in accordance with the principles of common and shared responsibility through an integrated and balanced approach, and in conformity with international law, and taking also into account the national law, respecting in particular the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference in the internal affairs of States, all human rights, and the principles reflected in the Panama Action Plan, as well as the commitments of the UNGASS on Drugs of 1998 and those of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action of the High Level Segment of the 52nd session of the CND held in 2009;
6. RECALLING that the Panama Action Plan of 1999 sets out the principles, priorities and operating framework of the Mechanism as well as its overall objectives, which are the development in the regions of policies and institution building at national level which will enable States to improve their capacity to tackle the world drug problem; the improvement of information systems between the regions; the enhancement of cooperation between the relevant EU and LAC institutions and agencies; and the sharing of accumulated experience between the regions;
7. HAVING REGARD TO the Declaration of Port of Spain of May 2007, which establishes a series of priorities for cooperation in the areas of demand reduction, supply reduction and other drug-related issues, including money laundering, and customs, police and judicial cooperation;
8. RECALLING the working procedures of the Mechanism adopted at the XI High Level meeting, held in Quito in May 2009;
9. EXPRESSING our concern at the growing violence related, in some cases, to criminal organizations involved in the trafficking in illicit drugs, and calling for actions to prevent those organizations from acquiring the means to pursue their activities that have the potential to affect civil society as well as law enforcement authorities.

10. VOICING our concern at the growing consumption and abuse of illicit drugs, in particular cocaine and synthetic drugs, which prompts the formulation of new initiatives to reduce both the demand for and the supply of illicit drugs;
11. EXPRESSING our concern at the emergence of new manifestations of the world drug problem, among them new alternative routes for drug trafficking, and at the repercussions that this can have on the countries affected;
12. EXPRESSING also our concern regarding drug-related money laundering, and stressing the need for a greater effort in our bi regional cooperation against illicit trafficking and diversion of chemical precursors;

MAKE THE FOLLOWING DECLARATION:

POLITICAL COORDINATION

13. WE AGREE to continue tackling the world drug problem with the aim of contributing to the elimination of its consequences on society, its structure and cohesion, social inclusion, public health, the environment, public safety, economic and political stability and the functioning of democratic institutions.
14. WE STRESS the need to take account of the economic, political, cultural and social specificities of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as respect for the rights of the indigenous peoples in our efforts to promote comprehensive development policies in the region.
15. WE REAFFIRM our commitment to cooperate in the framework of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs, maximising our joint efforts to implement the commitments adopted in the Political Declaration and the Plan of Action approved at the 52nd session of the CND held in 2009, and to support the joint presentation of draft resolutions in that framework.

16. WE RECOGNISE the appropriateness of pooling our efforts, upholding common positions in other international fora dealing with the world drug problem.
17. WE SHALL also intensify our cooperation in the framework of the United Nations and in accordance with international law, to combat drug trafficking carried out by organized crime and criminal organizations and drug related trafficking in firearms, their parts, components and ammunitions.
18. WE EMPHASIZE the need to continue the exchange of experiences and good practices, which will help to strengthen the institutions involved in tackling the world drug problem, including its underlying causes, and the implementation of effective and sustainable strategies.

BI-REGIONAL COOPERATION

19. WE AGREE, within the framework of the Mechanism, to continue strengthening bi-regional cooperation in tackling the world drug problem, by means of a progressive implementation of the priorities identified in the Port of Spain Declaration both in reducing demand and supply, as well as other drug related issues.
20. WE STRESS that bi regional cooperation complements the efforts made at local, national, bilateral, sub-regional, regional and multilateral levels.
21. WE ENCOURAGE exchange of experiences, knowledge and best practices, as well as training activities to enrich national policies by bringing together different situations and approaches.

22. We encourage the incorporation of research and its subsequent outcomes, best practices and innovation in formulating new bi regional activities and programmes. When new initiatives are being considered, evidence-based criteria, joint evaluation processes and impact assessments should guide their formulation and take into account new situations that may arise
23. WE STRESS the importance of cooperation on alternative development in regions where crops are cultivated for the production of illicit drugs, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, with an integrated and sustainable approach, and having recourse where appropriate to comprehensive programmes to alleviate poverty and social exclusion, with the ultimate objective of contributing to lawful viable social and economic development for both affected and vulnerable communities. Due attention should be given to technical assistance, in relation to the chain of production and commercialization of products of alternative development.
24. WE SHALL strengthen our cooperation against the diversion of precursors and support the technical capacity building of the authorities and the private sector.
25. WE AGREE to promote initiatives to tackle the negative consequences of the world drug problem on the environment, in accordance with national policies.
26. WE AGREE to continue providing financial support for projects of a bi-regional nature, based on criteria of effectiveness and efficiency, both in the area of demand and in the area of supply. Whilst the EU financial support continues, it needs to be complemented with contributions from other stakeholders.
27. WE RECOGNISE the efforts of the EU to develop bi regional cooperation projects which aim at exchanging best practices in the field of drugs at municipal level.

28. WE WELCOME the launching of the new COPOLAD project funded by the European Commission, which combines drug demand and drug supply reduction and envisages to strengthen cooperation and dialogue among national agencies and other actors charged with global and sectoral drugs policies in the framework of the Mechanism.

MADRID THEMATIC DEBATE

29. With the aim of enhancing and focusing our dialogue we decided to specially address in this High level meeting in Madrid some issues of concern of our bi regional agenda. In this regard we highlight the outcome of our main debate.

DEMAND REDUCTION: The challenge of social inclusion in drugs policies: from prevention to treatment

30. WE CONSIDER that social inclusion is an important component of a balanced and integrated approach in global drugs policies, as poverty, lack of equal opportunities and exclusion are crucial factors that such policies need to take into account. Social inclusion measures are therefore effective preventative factors in counteracting these unfavourable conditions, and are relevant components of a drug demand reduction policy. Effective measures to prevent and reduce drug use and the adverse health and social consequences related to it shall include comprehensive prevention programmes, health assistance, drug addiction treatment and social re- integration. Education plays an essential role at the level of prevention and in the effort to eliminate the use of recreational drugs. Special attention should be given to vulnerable groups, particularly children and young people.

These measures should guarantee comprehensive rehabilitation that takes into account collective and individual aspects like health, education and employment promoting a sense of belonging to the community. We maintain that the utmost importance must be given to social inclusion activities at all levels of national drug policies.

SUPPLY REDUCTION: Exchange of intelligence and information

31. WE CONSIDER it necessary to continue stepping up activities for the exchange of intelligence and information between and among the competent authorities of the EU and LAC countries, at national, sub-regional, regional and bi-regional levels, especially in relation to criminal organisations and emerging threats, either regarding existing or new routes or substances. In this respect, we express our concern about the serious threat posed by drug trafficking and organised crime and underline the need to strengthen cooperation along the entire cocaine route involving the enhancement of information exchange with other regions concerned, in particular West Africa. The ultimate goal must be the complete dismantling of these transnational criminal groups, through the strengthening of current systems for sharing intelligence on the multiple aspects involved in the priority areas concerning the world drug problem, using a multi-institutional and multi-disciplinary focus as a crucial element in the fight against these criminal organisations, while maintaining an unwavering commitment to the Rule of Law, and respect for fundamental freedoms and human rights. Equally, the cooperation against drug related money laundering and the diversion of precursors needs strengthening, with a view to improving the effectiveness of controls of their flow.
32. WE APPROVE the activity report for 2009.
33. WE AGREE to bring this Madrid Declaration to the attention of the VI EU LAC Summit that will take place in Madrid, 17-18 May 2010.
34. WE AGREE to hold the XIII High-Level Meeting of the Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs between the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean region in 2011 in a LAC country to be determined.