



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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(OR. es)**

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**CORDROGUE 26  
AMLAT 15  
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**NOTE**

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from: Presidency  
to: Cereper/Council

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Subject : Fourth high-level meeting of the Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on  
Drugs between the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean region  
(Madrid, 7 and 8 March 2002)  
– Madrid Declaration

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Please find attached the Madrid Declaration, approved at the fourth high-level meeting of the Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs between the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean region, held in Madrid on 7 and 8 March 2002.

## Madrid Declaration

We, the delegations from the Member States of the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean region, the Presidency of the Council of the European Union, assisted by the General Secretariat of the Council, and the European Commission, meeting under Spanish and Uruguayan co-chairmanship in the city of Madrid, Spain, on 7 and 8 March 2002, at the fourth high-level meeting of the Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs between the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean region, with the participation of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), Europol, the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD/OAS), the Permanent Central American Commission for the Eradication of Illegal Production, Trafficking, Consumption and Use of Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances (CCP) and the Executive Committee of the Andean Cooperation Plan for Control of Illegal Drugs and Related Offences,

- MINDFUL OF the second Summit of Heads of State or Government of the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in Madrid on 17 and 18 May 2002;
- NOTING that the Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs between the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean region (hereinafter referred to as "the Mechanism"), an initiative which originated at the Madrid European Council meeting in December 1995, is consolidating its status as the framework for dialogue within which coordination and cooperation is established between the two regions to tackle the drugs problem effectively and in concert;
- RECALLING that the Mechanism is based on the principles of shared responsibility, an integrated and balanced approach based on participation, sustainable development and compliance with international law, in particular non-interference with the sovereignty of States, the territorial integrity of States and respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

- IN VIEW OF the close connection between international terrorism and transnational organised crime, illegal trafficking and other criminal activities, as cited in United Nations Security Council Resolution 1373 of 28 September 2001;
- TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the effect of the global problem of drugs <sup>1</sup> and related offences on the destabilisation of democratic processes and institutions, on the creation of poverty and on the social and economic development of the countries and regions involved;
- RECOGNISING that the principles, priorities and operating framework of this Mechanism are contained in the Panama Action Plan, approved in Panama City in April 1999 and endorsed in June 1999 at the Rio de Janeiro Summit of Heads of State or Government of the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean;
- RECOGNISING too that the conclusions of the second high-level meeting in Lisbon in May 2000, and the Cochabamba Declaration of June 2001 contain the necessary bases for bi-regional coordination and cooperation in the fight against drugs;
- TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that one of the objectives of the Action Plan is to promote coordination and cooperation aimed at strengthening and developing national and regional policies on drugs and related offences;
- EMPHASISING the need for the parties involved to consider all possible sources of financing and human resources to achieve that objective;

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<sup>1</sup> According to the definition in the Political Declaration of the Twentieth Special Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations on the World Drug Problem: "The illicit cultivation, production, manufacture, sale, demand, trafficking and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including amphetamine-type stimulants, the diversion of precursors, and related criminal activities".

- RECALLING that the Action Plan also indicates the following areas for action: demand reduction, supply reduction, judicial, police and customs cooperation and illegal arms trafficking, money laundering, drugs legislation and institution-building;
- RECALLING the four priority areas identified in the Lisbon conclusions (demand reduction, money laundering, alternative development and maritime cooperation);
- NOTING the importance of strong institutions and appropriate laws as the essential basis for carrying out all the anti-drug activities designed to help develop real bi-regional policies to increase effective mutual cooperation, such as the specialised dialogue between the European Union and the Andean Community and the application of the Barbados Action Plan;
- AFFIRMING that all the activities being promoted in the framework of the Action Plan will be complementary to those taken by other international organisations such as the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP), the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD/OAS), the Permanent Central American Commission for the Eradication of Illegal Production, Trafficking, Consumption and Use of Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances (CCP), the Executive Committee of the Andean Cooperation Plan for Control of Illegal Drugs and Related Offences and the regional groups which, following the model of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), are operating in the Caribbean (CFATF) and South America (GAFISUD),

## **1. Political impetus**

WE REAFFIRM our commitment to continue promoting the Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs between the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean region, which is recognised as a regular forum for discussion and consultation on the global drugs problem and for seeking new approaches and solutions to combat that problem, while striving to make use of all possible sources of finance and human resources, and to further develop the coordination part of the Mechanism.

WE AGREE regularly to launch exchanges of ideas and experience between the technical and political authorities of the two regions with a view to proposing specific and sustainable joint actions that contribute to the solving of all manifestations, ramifications and facets of the global drugs problem.

WE AGREE to work together to dismantle all components of the global drugs problem, as an important contribution to combating terrorism.

WE AGREE to tackle the global drugs problem with a view to eliminating one of the underlying causes of destabilisation of democratic systems.

WE REAFFIRM the need to coordinate and cooperate specifically in order to halt illegal drug trafficking between the States affected.

WE AGREE to emphasise, contrary to past practice, cooperation on drugs as one of the priorities in bilateral cooperation between the European Commission, the Member States of the European Union and the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

## **2. Bi-regional approach**

WE REAFFIRM the need to promote bi-regional initiatives that increase real cooperation between the two regions.

WE SHALL MAKE all necessary efforts to promote the financing and cofinancing of projects with a bi-regional scope.

### **3. Inter- and intra-regional approach**

WE STRESS the importance of promoting inter-regional and intra-regional cooperation with regard to drugs.

### **4. Priority areas and specific objectives**

WE AGREE to concentrate our efforts in the following priority areas, from among those identified in the conclusions of the second high-level meeting, held in Lisbon (demand reduction, alternative development, money laundering and maritime cooperation), without prejudice to areas such as the prevention and control of the diversion of chemical precursors, prohibition policies and judicial cooperation, etc.

WE AGREE, with a view to a bi-regional strategic association, to hold ad hoc meetings during the annual substantive meetings of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs, for consultation and coordination on proposals for resolutions and other initiatives on subjects of common interest.

WE AGREE to coordinate efforts between the two regions in upholding common positions in other international fora concerned with drugs.

WE AGREE to analyse and assess the results achieved in the framework of the Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism, in order to make appropriate adjustments and introduce new policies, if necessary, and to specify the contributions that the parties are called on to make.

## **5. Institution-building**

WE REALISE the importance of the strengthening of institutions and legal systems for the proper development of regional and national policies and the establishment and optimisation of drug information systems for the implementation of those policies, as a framework within which actions against drugs must be set. Within this framework, we shall strive to emphasise the role of national focal points as support instruments in decision-making and drug policy evaluation.

## **6. Results of the fourth high-level meeting of the Mechanism**

WE WELCOME and take note of the results achieved in the political debate and the thematic discussions on institution-building, money laundering and chemical precursors held at the fourth high-level meeting of the Mechanism, which will be reflected in the conclusions document to be drawn up by the co-chairs and distributed to all delegations for their approval.

## **7. Fifth high-level meeting**

WE AGREE to hold the fifth high level meeting of the Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs between the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean region in the city of Cartagena de Indias (Colombia) during 2003.

## 8. Final provision

WE AGREE to bring this Madrid Declaration to the attention of the Heads of State or Government of the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean, meeting in Madrid on 17 and 18 May 2002.

Madrid, 8 March 2002

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