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to:	Horizontal Working Party on Drugs
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Subject:	EU-LAC Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs Annual Report May 2010 - June 2011

This report is the result of the regular analysis of the activities carried out and results achieved within the framework of the Mechanism in the period from May 2010 to June 2011.

1. XII High Level Meeting of the Mechanism

The XII High Level Meeting of the Mechanism was held on 26-27 April 2010 in Madrid under the co-presidency of Spain and Uruguay.

The thematic discussions of the meeting focused on demand and supply reduction under the topics "The challenge of social inclusion in drug policy: from prevention to treatment" and "Sharing intelligence and information". The EU and the LAC also updated each other on recent developments of the drug situation in their respective regions and discussed the state of play of bi-regional cooperation.

The High Level Meeting approved the Madrid Declaration, reflecting new concerns expressed in the thematic discussions as well as a series of principles aimed at improving the efficiency and effectiveness of cooperation initiatives. The meeting also adopted the Annual report of the Mechanism for the period May 2009 - April 2010¹.

2. VI EU-LAC Summit of Heads of State and Government

During the VI EU-LAC Summit of Heads of State and Government held on 18 May 2010 in Madrid², delegations proposed intensifying the existing bi-regional cooperation to tackle the world drug problem, in accordance with the principle of common and shared responsibility, and welcomed the Madrid Declaration adopted at the XII High Level Meeting of Mechanism in Madrid on 26-27 April 2010³. A concern at the growing violence related, in some cases, to criminal organizations involved in the trafficking in illicit drugs was expressed and the delegations called on for taking actions to prevent those organizations from acquiring the means to pursue their activities.

3. EU-LAC Technical Committee Meetings

Three meetings of the Technical Committee took place during this period: on 17 November 2010 under the co-presidency of Belgium and Colombia, and on 2 May 2011 and 9 June 2011 under the co-presidency of Hungary and Colombia.

The meetings dealt with preparations for the XIII High Level meeting Colombia in June 2011 and two priorities were identified for the thematic debates at the High Level meeting: "Exchange of experiences in knowledge management on drug use: observatories, information and early warning systems" in the area of demand reduction and "Joint bi-regional cooperation to face new challenges arising from the World Drug Problem" in the area of supply reduction. The delegations also shared the newest information on the drug situation in their respective regions and discussed ongoing cooperation activities and projects.

¹ 8923/10 CORDROGUE 42 COLAT 20 AMLAT 50

² VI EU-LAC Summit of Heads of State and Government, Madrid, May 18, 2010, Declaration of Madrid "Towards a new stage in the bi-regional partnership: innovation and technology for sustainable development and social inclusion" (doc. 9931/2/10 REV 2)

³ Doc. 9228/10 CORDROGUE 44 COLAT 23 AMLAT 60

4. Coordination in the framework of the Mechanism

There was no formal coordination in the framework of the Mechanism during the 54th session of the CND (UNODC, Vienna, 21-25 March 2011).

5. EU-LAC Cooperation

5.1. *Cooperation in the framework of the Mechanism*

Cooperation Program on drug policies between Latin America and the European Union (COPOLAD)¹

COPOLAD is a bi-regional project that aims specifically at strengthening capacities and encouraging the process of elaborating drugs policies in its different stages in Latin American countries by improving the dialogue and reinforcing the cooperation of the national agencies and other actors responsible for global and sectoral anti-drug policies in the countries of Latin America and the EU.

The Programme focuses on four main sectors:

- 1) Consolidation of the EU-LAC Anti-Drugs Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism;
- 2) Consolidation of the national Observatories of Latin American countries;
- 3) Capacity-building on demand reduction; and
- 4) Capacity-building on supply reduction.

¹ **Statement by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela**

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela considers that the COPOLAD Program does not derive from the reality of the EU LAC Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs, and therefore, can not be seen, as a project from the Mechanism.

It understands that the dynamic in both regions and the efforts undertaken daily by competent authorities of the EU, Latin America and the Caribbean to tackle the World Drug Problem, provide for a desire to have a more effective cooperation at the biregional level.

In this context, it understands that it is desirable to highlight the Mechanism and that this could have its own cooperation projects, and so it may embrace it as its own. Nevertheless, reiterates that it is its understanding that COPOLAD does not derive from the Mechanism. In that way, it dissents from the criteria that consider it as a project from this bi regional forum.

The Programme has been awarded to the consortium led by the Spanish FIIAPP (Fundación Internacional y para Iberoamerica de Administración y Políticas Públicas) and the Government Delegation for the National Plan on Drugs for an amount of almost € 6 million. Other partners of this consortium are: SEDRONAR (Argentina), SENAD (Brazil), CONACE (Chile), DNE (Colombia), DEVIDA (Peru), JND (Uruguay), GIZ (Germany), IDT (Portugal), CIFAD (France). Associated bodies in this Program are ICD (Costa Rica), PCB (Poland), and ANA, (Romania).

The implementation period started on 4 December 2010 and has a duration of 42 months. The programme was formally launched on 31 January 2011 in Madrid. The First Annual Meeting of the Programme is scheduled to take place in Bogotá, Colombia, on 30 June – 1 July 2011 just after the High Level Meeting of the Mechanism. The participation in the Programme is open to all Latin American countries and 27 EU Member States. The COPOLAD Consortium highly encourages the participation of all them.

5.2. *EU cooperation projects for LAC*

EU-LAC cities in partnership (CICAD)

Officially launched at the Santo Domingo European, Latin American and Caribbean City Forum in April 2008, the amount of the project's fund is €1,400,000 and it is implemented and coordinated by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD). The overall objective of the project is to contribute to improved provision of care and policy decisions on the quality and coverage of drug treatment, rehabilitation and harm reduction for diverse populations in the European Union and Latin America and the Caribbean to ensure that the care provided to them is appropriate.

A major EU-LAC City Summit was held in Lugo (Spain) in April 2010, where the participating mayors of European, Latin American and Caribbean cities adopted the “Declaration of Lugo on the prevention and treatment of drug use and dependence”. In September 2010, a final event took place in Coimbra, where participants signed a new “Declaration on the creation of the EU-LAC partnership in drug demand reduction”, with a view to including the drug issue in the local policy agendas, while improving the capacities to address drug demand reduction.

A total of 44 cities from 40 EU-LAC countries have participated in this project, which has held 11 city fora and summits where partner cities have been able to exchange experiences, knowledge and best practices.

Prevention of the diversion of drug precursors in the Latin American and Caribbean region (PRELAC)

Under the Instrument for Stability, the European Commission initiated in 2009 the project PRELAC, which is implemented and co-financed by UNODC with an approximate amount of €2,500,000. The project's general objective is to contribute to the fight against the manufacture of drugs and its trafficking by assisting the region in struggling against the diversion of precursors from the licit trade. It will complement and closely work with other EC-financed actions such as the Project on Anti-illegal drugs in the Andean Community (PRADICAN).

The activities take place on a regional and subregional level and involve establishing a web-based system of information exchange between all participating countries; standardizing precursor control mechanisms and legal frameworks; improving inspection and investigation techniques; developing synergies between the control agencies and chemical operators in both the public and private sector; and enhancing the effectiveness of Customs administrations in the control of precursor chemicals. In the framework of PRELAC, an International Precursor Control Symposium was held in Lima, Peru on 8-10 June 2010. Its aim was to study the diversion of precursors and non-scheduled (chemical) substances. It brought together high ranking expert delegates and representatives of authorities and governments of EU Member States, Latin American and Caribbean States and regional organizations, the European Commission, the United Nations, as well as representatives from the chemical industry and its regional and national associations.

A second phase of the PRELAC programme is currently under discussion and will be established in the frame of the Cocaine Route programme.

6. Other EU-inter-regional initiatives

Cooperation between LAC countries and the countries of West Africa: the Cocaine Route Programme

The multiyear Cocaine Route programme (2009-2011) was adopted as part of the global action "Fight against trafficking on the cocaine route" of the Instrument for Stability. Two phases of this programme are currently ongoing: Cocaine Route I and II, each one with a budget of € 6,500,000. Cocaine Route III is currently under discussion.

The overall objective of the global action is to enhance the capacity for international cooperation of law enforcement and judicial services of the partner countries for contributing to the fight against international criminal networks.

The project consists of six components with the aim to link them up progressively, thus contributing to the creation of trans-regional synergies to tackle organised crime along the cocaine route.

Among these components, we find the following programs dedicated to LAC:

1) Airport Communication Programme (AIRCOP)

The main objective is to strengthen the anti-drug capacities at selected airports. This project focuses its activities on fourteen selected international airports in Latin America and the Caribbean in order to intercept cocaine shipments by air. The project is implemented jointly by UNODOC, WCO and INTERPOL, with participation of EU experts and officers. While AIRCOP I focused on selected West-African airports and Brazil, the second phase of this project, AIRCOP II – signed in December 2010, includes more Latin American and Caribbean airports.

2) Seaport Cooperation Project (SEACOP)

The main objective is to strengthen cooperation in contrasting maritime trafficking in West Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean.

The programme's first phase SEACOP I was signed in July 2010. FIIAPP is the leading partner of this project, whose activities started immediately following the SEACOP Inception Meeting on 23 September 2010. So far, these activities are being carried out in three countries of West Africa. The project's second phase SEACOP II will include Latin American and Caribbean ports.

3) AMERIPOL project

This project supports the relatively new organisation created in order to fight against drug trafficking and organised crime, AMERIPOL, made of 20 member states and 11 permanent observers. The project's contract was signed on December 2010.

The main aim is to contribute to strengthen cooperation of law enforcement, judicial and prosecuting authorities of Latin America and Caribbean countries and the EU in tackling transregional organised crime.

Among the foreseen activities, this project shall provide AMERIPOL a gap analysis in each participating country, design and setup of a Capacity Building Programme, help establish a secure information platform and develop transnational joint operations.

4) GAFISUD project

This project started in 2009 for a period of 24 months, with the possibility of a 12-month extension. The funds are directly awarded to GAFISUD. The main objective is to support the fight against money laundering and financial crime in Latin America and the Caribbean countries.

So far, this project has elaborated a primary diagnosis on the non-banking financial sector in the twelve countries of the GAFISUD Group and according to seven sub-sectors. In addition, the project has organised several training activities.

In order to give a greater coherence and wider complementarity effect to this transregional action, the Cocaine Route Monitoring and Support (CORMS) has been established. Its mandate is to liaise and create synergies between the different components of the Cocaine Route Programme, between all relevant national actors involved, as well as between Latin American, Caribbean, African countries and European counterparts by sharing experiences.

The programme under preparation will integrate PRELAC in the Cocaine Route Programme and will also start activities on money laundering in West Africa.
