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**Commission on Narcotic Drugs****Fifty-seventh session**

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Items 9 and 11 of the provisional agenda\*

**Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to counter the World Drug Problem****World situation with regard to drug trafficking and recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission****Reports by intergovernmental organizations on drug control activities<sup>1</sup>**

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\* E/CN.7/2014/1.

<sup>1</sup> This conference room paper reproduces the contribution of intergovernmental organizations in the form in which they were received.

## I. Introduction

1. Intergovernmental organizations active in the field of international drug control were invited to submit to the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs by 17 February 2014 concise reports on their activities conducted in the year 2013. The following organizations submitted reports to the Secretariat: the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), The Colombo Plan, the European Union Police Office (EUROPOL), the GCC-Criminal Information Center to Combat Drugs (GCC-CICCD), and the Pompidou Group.

## II. European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA)

2. In 2013, the EMCDDA continued to improve the quality and comparability of drug information in the European Union, working closely with its network of 30 national focal points (Reitox) to gather and analyse country data according to common data-collection standards and tools. Key results of the EMCDDA's work were released at the end of May in an annual information package, in a revised format. The new package contained several products: the *European Drug Report* on main developments in the European drug situation; the web-based *Statistical Bulletin* of tables and figures; country overviews containing national trends and drug-related problems, as well as the *Perspective on drugs* (PODs). The latter provide detailed insight into key issues and 2013 topics included new treatment approaches for hepatitis C, high-risk cannabis use and the control of new psychoactive substances (NPS). The earlier release of the yearly package meant that the information provided by the EMCDDA was more timely and up to date.

3. The monitoring of new drugs in Europe continued in 2013 and over 80 new drugs were reported to the EMCDDA and Europol via the EU early-warning system (EWS) on new psychoactive substances. Based on risk assessment reports by the EMCDDA's Scientific Committee, the Council of the European Union recommended that two substances — 4-methylamphetamine (4-MA) and 5-(2-aminopropyl) indole (5-IT) — be placed under control at EU level and Member States have one year to take the necessary measures at national level. The EMCDDA and Europol also prepared four Joint Reports on new psychoactive substances: MDPV, methoxetamine, 25I-NBOMe and AH-7921. The substances concerned will be further examined through risk assessments in 2014. All of the above activities took place within Council Decision 2005/387/JHA on the information exchange, risk assessment and control of new psychoactive substances. In June 2013, the EMCDDA organized the third international multidisciplinary forum on new drugs, bringing together leading European and international experts working in the field to discuss recent developments.

4. Improving the reaction time of the EU's current information system to new developments in the drugs market and new patterns of drug use are central to the Agency's work. In September 2013, a "trendspotter meeting" was organized to investigate trends, availability and harms of methamphetamine in Europe. The EMCDDA also co-organized the first international multidisciplinary conference on

illicit drugs in wastewater, an event that attracted over 100 participants from 20 countries.

5. In 2013, work also continued on scaling up the monitoring of illicit drug supply in Europe. Along with the Member States and European and international partners, the EMCDDA helped develop and improve key indicators on drug markets, drug-related crime and drug supply reduction. An EU reference group on drug supply data was also created. The EMCDDA and Europol also published the first European Union report on drug markets and intense collaboration between the two agencies resulted in an overview of drug production, trafficking and consumption in Europe. This was the first time the EMCDDA's well-structured data sets and scientific approach was combined with the latest trends from intelligence sources on organized crime from Europol.

6. The EMCDDA continued to collaborate with its partners at national level and worldwide. The Agency contributed actively to the work of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Presidency of the G8 on the threat of new psychoactive substances. The G8 Member States, the United Nations and the EU are committed to working together to develop a better understanding of NPS and to reduce their production, manufacture, distribution and demand. The G8 statement of intent on collecting and sharing data on new drugs highlights the importance of the EU early-warning system in this area.

7. In 2013, the EMCDDA continued to provide technical assistance to candidate and potential candidate countries. The Centre also signed a two-year project for cooperation with European Neighbourhood Countries. Following a request by the Israel Anti-Drug Authority, a Memorandum of Understanding was negotiated. Two training courses for national drug observatories were organized in April (Western Balkan countries) and September (Latin-American countries) and the second Reitox week took place, bringing together national drug observatory representatives from both the EU and beyond. The EMCDDA and CICAD-OAS also signed a new joint work programme.

### **III. The Colombo Plan**

8. The Colombo Plan's Drug Advisory Programme (DAP) was established in response to the global problem of substance abuse and addiction and it is one of the region's oldest intergovernmental programmes aimed exclusively at drug demand reduction activities and programmes. During the last three decades the DAP has assisted member countries in initiating the process of policy evolution, in finding appropriate solutions on a bilateral and/or multilateral basis and in encouraging national efforts among member countries towards drug demand reduction. Over the last eight years, the DAP has expanded its intervention and aftercare services by establishing a number of Outreach/Drop in Centres (ODICs) around the world.

9. The Colombo Plan continues to coordinate its efforts through its Drug Advisory Programme (DAP) for Drug Demand Reduction through the operation of 44 Treatment Centers in Afghanistan funded by the Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, U.S. Department of State. In addition, it operates six outreach drop-in centres in five countries across Asia as well as two additional centres in Liberia and Iraq, respectively.

10. With regard to drug prevention, the Colombo Plan DAP, in collaboration with the National Rehabilitation Centre (NRC) of the United Arab Emirates, conducted the first Global Forum for Youth Leaders on Drug Use Prevention (GoForth) in February 2014. The primary objective of this programme was to build a cadre of Youth Leaders dedicated to lead the way forward in peer led drug prevention initiatives. GoForth saw the participation of over three hundred participants representing fifty-two countries around the world. Apart from GoForth, the Colombo Plan, through the DAP and the Asian Centre for Certification and Education of Addiction Professionals (ACCE), also collaborated with the NRC in training of trainers for substance use disorders and the publication of *International Journal of Prevention and Treatment of Substance Use Disorders* (IJPTSUD).

11. In response to the long-standing crisis of evidence-based drug demand reduction programmes in the region and the lack of adequately trained addiction treatment professionals, the Colombo Plan further embarked on a new initiative to develop, expand and professionalize the field of drug demand reduction. The result was the formation of the Asian Centre for Certification and Education of Addiction Professionals (ACCE) in 2009, as the training and credentialing arm of the Drug Advisory Programme. It is being funded by the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, US State Department. The ACCE collaborates with NAADAC as an approved education provider to ensure the highest standard of quality in their training programmes as it is the most distinguished organization in the field of addiction credentialing, having represented over 75,000 addiction counsellors and other health-care professionals all over the world.

12. The ACCE programme is a specialized technical unit for addiction treatment professionals. In the past year, the ACCE has completed approximately sixty training initiatives benefitting about one thousand five hundred treatment practitioners all over the world. To date, 101 treatment practitioners have been credentialed as International Certified Addictions Counsellor (ICAC). The ACCE is currently in the process of certifying 200 national level trainers, as well as 1,000 thousand treatment practitioners and four hundred treatment practitioners in Pakistan. The ACCE also initiated the first certification training programmes for Central Asia, United Arab Emirates, Liberia and Iraq, in addition to the ongoing training that is being conducted for South and South-East Asia.

13. The ACCE training programmes will be expanded to include the Côte d'Ivoire, Tanzania, South Africa, Ghana, Kenya and Nigeria. In order to ensure quality of the training delivered, the ACCE convenes an International Advisory Panel of experts from OAS, UNODC and INL to develop and approve Universal Treatment Curriculum for Substance Use Disorders (UTC) and Universal Prevention Curriculum for Substance Use (UPC). The overall goal of curriculum development is to build international treatment capacity by providing training and education that will equip addiction professionals with knowledge, skills and competencies in evidence based practices in order to efficiently deliver drug demand reduction services around the world.

14. The ACCE currently conducts training on the UTC and will introduce the UPC this year. In addition, the ACCE conducts training on Guiding the Recovery for Women (GROW) Curricula which provide critical information on treatment interventions, policies and organizational structures that meet the specialised needs of women suffering from substance use. In order to facilitate and promote recovery,

the ACCE has also developed a training curriculum focusing on Community-based Recovery Support Systems for Asia and Africa.

#### **IV. European Police Office (Europol)**

15. Countering illicit drug trafficking continues to be among Europol's highest priorities. In 2013, more than 25 per cent of Europol's operational resources were allocated to supporting drug supply reduction. The objective was to contribute to a measurable reduction of the availability of illicit drugs by providing strategic and operational services to law enforcement in disrupting large scale drug trafficking, dismantling of criminal organizations, tracing criminal assets, developing effective intelligence-led law enforcement and increasing intelligence sharing.

16. Europol fulfilled expectations from EU stakeholders by providing assistance in the framework of the new EU Strategy on Drugs 2013-2020 and the new Action Plan (2013-2016) related to that Strategy. The orientation of the EU Strategies on Drugs (2005-2012 and 2013-2020) continue to be closely linked with the United Nations goals and targets as set out in the Political Declaration and its Action Plan. Europol's contribution to the EU Strategy and Action Plan on Drugs can therefore be seen as a contribution to the United Nations Plan of Action on international cooperation towards an integrated and balanced strategy to counter the world drug problem.

17. Europol has continued to contribute to various global and regional initiatives (e.g. MAOC-N, Baltic Sea Task Force on Organized crime) and programmes (Heroin Route Programme, Cocaine Route Programme, etc.), aiming to support operational cooperation to tackle international drug trafficking. A number of conferences and expert meetings (e.g. Conference on Cocaine Trafficking via containers, Conference on Air and Maritime Cocaine Trafficking in the Caribbean basin, Europol Conference on Cocaine Extraction-Conversion Laboratories, a tri-fold international meeting under the UNODC/Paris Pact Initiative on precursors, legal frameworks and money flows, etc.) have resulted in increased information exchange and triggered new investigations.

18. The customised products and services provided by Europol include: operational analysis; technical and forensic expertise; on-the-spot support including the dismantling of laboratories/cultivation sites; technical and comparison reports on chemicals and equipment seized in illegal synthetic drug production/storage locations and waste dump sites; participation in Joint Investigation Teams, Joint Customs and/or Joint Police Operations; provision of financial intelligence reports (e.g. on money flows, company ownership, assets held); threat notices and threat assessments; and training events (e.g. on dismantling illicit synthetic drugs laboratories).

19. In 2013 investigations led by EU Member States and supported by Europol produced significant operational outcomes, notably the dismantling of the highest capacity illegal (synthetic) drugs production sites ever discovered in the EU; seizures of large amounts of cocaine, heroin, cannabis and synthetic drugs; confiscation of criminal assets and properties (including boats, vehicles, companies, real estate, etc.); and the disruption of criminal networks operating in Europe and globally.

20. Europol's Serious and Organized Crime Threat Assessment (SOCTA), published for the first time in 2013, identified drugs trafficking as one of the most dynamic crime phenomena due to continuously diversifying routes, development of new products and poly-crime activities. Multiple drugs (poly-drugs) trafficking is increasingly common and organized crime networks continue to be highly innovative.

21. In 2013, together with the EMCDDA, Europol released the "EU Drugs Market Report — A Strategic Analysis". In addition to the threats associated with the smuggling of cocaine, heroin and cannabis, the report showed that organized crime groups are continuously involved in the production of new psychoactive substances (NPS) — a rapidly developing and expanding market with low risks and high profits. These insights are reflected in the 2014-2017 EU policy cycle on organized and serious international crime, in which Europol acts as the platform to facilitate and coordinate joint intelligence-led operational actions.

## **V. The GCC-Criminal Information Center to Combat Drugs (GCC-CICCD)**

22. The GCC-Criminal Information Center to Combat Drugs (GCC-CICCD) has been established to coordinate the efforts made by the Member States in the field of combating the illicit trafficking in drugs, psychotropic substances and chemical precursors, including through facilitating joint investigations, controlled deliveries, collection, storage, exchange and analysis of information.

23. During 2013, the GCC-CICCD achieved targets, which had a direct impact on reducing the spread and sale of drugs and precursors and psychotropic substances in the region, as reflected by the seizures of drugs, as well as on arrests of dealers and smugglers in the States, members of the Council.

24. In view of the importance of intensifying and unifying the efforts at the international or regional levels, in 2013, the GCC-CICCD improved cooperation with many organizations and centres, including UNODC.

25. In 2013, the GCC-CICCD sought to be an effective part of the international system for combating illicit trafficking in drugs, psychotropic substances and control chemical precursors and any related crimes and participated in several conferences, meetings and symposia.

26. The GCC-CICCD had signed memorandums of understanding with the Naïf Arab University for Security Sciences, and with the Police Training Institute, Ministry of Interior of the State of Qatar. The memorandums place emphasis on cooperation, coordination and exchange of expertise, as well as on research and studies in the field of combating illicit drugs and psychotropic substances.

27. In 2013, the GCC-CICCD organized several specialized training courses in relevant areas, in order to develop and improve the qualifications of the competent authorities in the GCC States, according to its training plan, which was fully implemented.

28. In 2013, the GCC-CICCD also issued two publications the risks of addiction and the impact of drugs on the society and the economy of the States members of

the Council. The publications are available on the GCC-CICCD website at [www.gcccic.org](http://www.gcccic.org).

## **VI. Co-operation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in Drugs (Pompidou Group)**

29. In 2013, the Co-operation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in Drugs (the Pompidou Group) adopted the Athens Declaration on protecting public health by ensuring essential services in drug policy under austerity budgets. The Pompidou Group also adopted a policy paper on preventing risks and reducing harm linked to the use of psychoactive substances and recommendations on education and training on substance use disorders.

30. In October 2013, Israel joined the Pompidou Group bringing the total to 36 Member States. In addition, Mexico became an Observer State of the Group.

### **Drug policy cooperation in South-East Europe and the Balkans**

31. The 3rd South East Europe meeting on drug related issues was held on 2-3 July 2013 in Podgorica, Montenegro, on the topic of coordination of drug policies, at the invitation of the Montenegrin Minister of Health. The South East Europe Network brings together all countries of the wider region and promotes open discussion on drug policy development in the region.

### **Trans-cultural drug work**

32. The 2013 Executive Training for Drug Policy Managers was successfully completed with the holding of the qualifying seminar on developing tools to reach regular and irregular migrants. Participants from 15 countries benefited from the training this year, including also participants from Central Asian countries. An international conference on trans-cultural drug work was organized in Moscow on 3 October 2013, at the initiative of the National Research Centre on Addiction of the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation. It brought together representatives of various government institutions of the Russian Federation and international experts.

### **International airports**

33. The Annual Meeting 2013 was held in Strasbourg from 19 to 21 June 2013, which debated on the following topics: Cooperation with other International organizations (RILO; EMPACT project; EMCDDA); drug trafficking by air freight/post parcels; airport crime; controlled deliveries; risk analysis; passenger profiling, synergology and other behavioural aspects; general aviation; new developments in detection methods and specific case studies. Representatives of MAOC-N and UNODC West Africa also participated.

### **Conference on the prevention of drug precursors' diversion**

34. The Annual Meeting of the Precursor Network gathered participants from 26 States (including USA, China and India) and 12 international organizations. The participants included prosecutors and representatives of law enforcement, control

bodies and the chemical industry. The main conclusions are the setting up of an online course for Prosecutors on precursors through the HELP Programme and the development of recommendations to be submitted for adoption by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

**The Mediterranean network for cooperation on drugs and addictions (MedNet)**

35. MedNet organized a series of national and regional seminars in Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Morocco. In 2013 Round Tables on Drug Policy Development were organized in Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia. MedNET continued to support capacity-building projects in all member countries of the network in the form of study visits, educational events and publications, assistance to treatment and prevention activities.

**Cooperation activities**

36. The Pompidou Group organized a high number of cooperation activities in Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Ukraine, namely: seminars and conferences on tackling drug problems in prisons.

37. Further information on the work of the Pompidou Group can be found on its website: [www.coe.int/T/dg3/pompidou/](http://www.coe.int/T/dg3/pompidou/) or the Facebook page of the Group: [www.facebook.com/pages/Pompidou-Group-of-the-Council-of-Europe/610789708947378](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Pompidou-Group-of-the-Council-of-Europe/610789708947378)