



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 22 October 1999**

**11467/99**

**LIMITE**

**STUP 18**

**OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS**

---

of : - The Working Group on Drugs Trafficking/Mixed Committee (Norway/Iceland)  
- The Working Group on Drugs Trafficking  
of : 23 September 1999

---

**I. MIXED COMMITTEE (NORWAY / ICELAND) DRUGS TRAFFICKING**

**1. Adoption of the agenda**

The Icelandic delegation, backed by the Austrian, German and Swedish delegations, insisted on inclusion of points 3, 4 and 5 of the agenda of the Working Group on Drugs Trafficking (best practices in drug prevention, matrix for drug matters and alignment of law enforcement drug statistics) in the agenda of the Mixed Committee.

The Icelandic delegation emphasized that by concluding first the Luxembourg Agreement and later the Iceland/Norway Agreement, the Member States of EU have entrusted Iceland and Norway with the task of guarding the external borders of the Union and issuing visas valid for the territory of the EU.

On the basis of those Agreements Iceland will become part of the area without internal border control. Iceland is determined to implement all the necessary provisions in this respect and to guard the external borders of the area in a high standard fashion in the best interest of the whole area. However, to be able to perform the border control in such a fashion Iceland must be given the means to do so on equal footing with other Member States.

If the area is going to function in a satisfactory fashion after the integration of the Nordic States in general a broad approach to the interpretation and application of the Iceland/Norway Agreement has to be taken. It is important to consider on each occasion whether exclusion of Norway and Iceland could in the end affect the security of the area. The opinion of the Icelandic delegation is that for the benefit of the whole area the approach should be inclusive but not exclusive.

The Icelandic and Norwegian delegations see it as a common obligation to implement as harmonised rules as possible in these fields to be able to achieve the common goal of security for the whole area.

The area of drugs is a clear example where such an approach would be appropriate. To be able to perform external border control for the benefit of all it is essential to be involved in the work carried out in that field.

The Spanish and Irish delegations opposed the request of the Icelandic delegation. The Presidency noted that in absence of unanimity on the demand of the Icelandic delegation, the issue should be discussed by a higher body.

The Committee agreed on the agenda set out in telex 3913 of 15 September 1999 it being understood that under "Any other business" points will be examined that have been suggested by German, Swedish and Spanish delegations.

## **2. Internet, draft questionnaire and action plan for further work**

The representative of Europol informed the Committee on its recent initiatives in the field of Drugs on Internet. A seminar will be held on 15 October 1999. A report on fraudulent use of high technology will be presented on short notice. A questionnaire will be elaborated.

The Presidency concluded that work on this item will be pursued at a next meeting on the basis of the Europol questionnaire. At the same occasion a network can be created covering customs and police services.

## **3. Legal aspects of smuggling drugs inside the body (doc. 8489/99 STUP 1 COMIX 1, 8492/1/99 STUP 4 COMIX 4 REV 1)**

### **Presidency's proposal for recommendations (doc. 11004/ 99 STUP 16)**

a) All delegations having sent their answers to the questionnaire drawn up by outgoing German Presidency, the German delegation promised to produce a revised version of document 8492/1/99 STUP 4 COMIX 4 REV 1 with the contributions of all delegations.

b) The Group had a first exchange of views on the document 11004/99 STUP 16 that lists a series of recommendations drawn up by the Finnish Presidency on this matter.

Various delegations forwarded scrutiny reservations and stressed the importance of appropriate respect of pertinent privacy protection and human rights rules, as well as to take into account the European Convention on Human Rights.

The Presidency took note of the observations made by the delegations and asked written observations to the document before 6/10/99.

**4. Summary of the standard of control cross-border drug trafficking, especially at external frontiers. (7207/1/99 STUP 12 CORDROGUE 20 COMIX 93 REV 1)**

The Presidency pointed out that aforementioned document is an overview of existing controls. Delegations were asked to forward contributions before 6/10/99.

**5. Other business**

- a) The German delegation reminded the confidential character of the Europol Logo presented during the last meeting and that it cannot be communicated to third organisations without EUROPOL authorisation.
- b) The Swedish delegation presented a report on amphetamines. The Presidency will consult the presidents of groups concerned on the appropriate follow-up to be given to this report.
- c) The Spanish delegation informed on the operation "Temple": In this operation 12 800 kilograms of cocaine and 200 kilograms of heroine have been seized. Fifty-six members of organised networks of drug trafficking have been arrested.
- d) The Committee agreed to pursue at the next meeting examination of points under 2, 3 and 4.

## **II WORKING GROUP ON DRUG TRAFFICKING**

### **1. Adoption of the agenda and decisions made in the Mixed Committee**

The Group adopted the agenda set out in telex 3913 of 15 September 1999.

As regards decisions made by the Mixed Committee, the Austrian delegation asked for a basic orientation on definition of remits of the Drug Trafficking Group and the Mixed Committee.

Fourteen delegations agreed with the suggestion of the representative of the Council Secretariat to recur as a provisioned solution to article 5 of the agreement between Norway/Iceland and the European Union. This article provided for information of Norway and Icelandic delegations on matters covered by the Drug Trafficking Group. The Irish delegation expressed a waiting reservation on this approach.

### **2. European Union Action Plan to combat drugs 2000-2004 (9012/99 CORDROGUE 33) - State of play**

The representative of Europol presented the Europol comments on Document 9012/99 CORDROGUE 33. These comments focus on an overview of the drug situation in the European Union and on activities in the field of law enforcement. It was agreed that Europol will have bilateral contacts with some delegations in order to clarify data that are in document 9012/99 CORDROGUE 33. Observations from Europol will anyhow be taken into consideration in the drafting of the text on the Action Plan.

### **3. Follow up to the seminar on best practices in drug prevention (10162/99) CORDROGUE 54 CRIMORG 106 Presidency's proposal (11005/99) STUP 17**

The Presidency presented the document 11005/99 STUP 17. It is a summary of the conclusions

and recommendations of the Seminar. The intention of the Presidency is to include these recommendations in the strategy on drugs 2000-2004.

The Group had an initial exchange of opinions on this document. The Presidency asked delegations to send written contributions before 15/10/99.

**4. Presentation by Europol of a matrix for matters drug, 9560/99 STUP 13 CORDROGUE 42, and from the matrix situation on specific projects.**

a) The representative of Europol having stressed that main characteristics of the matrix are its evolving, informative and pragmatic nature, the Group had an exchange of views on the assignment of subjects to the different Groups and Committees.

It was agreed that the Presidency, the Council General Secretariat, the Commission, Europol and the EMCDDA will update the document.

b) The representative of Europol informed the Group on various strategic reports. The final evaluation of these projects will be presented in December 1999 to the experts of the Member States.

**5. Alignment of law enforcement statistics drug 8580/1/99 STUP 8 rev 1 and proposal for further work**

The Presidency presented a room document and suggested that alignment of law enforcement drug statistics should be pursued on a step by step basis.

The Group agreed that experts from Europol and the EMCDDA should work together on this matter with a view to present the outcome results of their activities to this Group.

**6. Presentation by the Commission on projects funded under Title VI**

The representative of the Commission informed the Group on the different projects financed by the Commission within the framework of the Programs OISIN and FALCONE. The

Commission has just launched an initiative to evaluate the impact of these programmes with the aim to improve proposals. The Commission presented a list of these projects.

## **7. Any other business**

### Central Asia threat assessment

The Presidency informed the meeting on the outcome of the meeting of 8 September 1999.

---