

9867/96

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JAI	54
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NOTE

Nr. prev. doc. : 9434/96 JAI 51 USA 23

Subject : Transatlantic dialogue JAI/USA

- Outcome of proceedings of meeting of K.4 Committee of 9 September 1996

At its meeting of 9 September 1996, the K.4 Committee discussed the report of the meeting of the Presidency, Commission and Council Secretariat with the US delegation on 15 July 1996 in Dublin (cf. doc. 9434/96 JAI 51 USA 23) on the implementation of the Transatlantic Action Plan.

The conclusions of the meeting are the following :

- I. Cooperation in Western Hemisphere particularly Latin America, the Caribbean and Andean regions

A. Caribbean

The French delegation offered to make full use specially for US partners of possibility offered by the interministerial Anti-drugs Centre in Martinique.

Prior to contacts with US on cooperation in this area, Union members should adopt a common attitude in regards to follow up to the report on the Caribbean adopted by the Florence European Council meeting.

The Italian delegation informed the meeting on a seminar it organizes in 1997 on money-laundering.

The Presidency pointed out that the Ad-hoc Group on Caribbean/Latin America will discuss the implementation of the report and also contacts with the USA at its forthcoming meeting of 23/24 September 1996.

B. Latin America

The French delegation stressed that Colombia should not be excluded from efforts in the fight against drugs.

The German delegation warned against too much focus on Peru and Bolivia.

The Presidency assured that these concerns will be conveyed to the Ad-hoc Group on Latin-America/Caribbean.

This group will also discuss the timing and mode of contact with the United States authorities.

II. Moneylaundering

Some delegations stressed the need for pursuing contact with US authorities on moneylaundering. Action in regard to certain third countries may be of mutual interest.

III. Extradition

The Committee welcomed the offer of the United States to host an experts meeting in Washington for the purpose of reciprocal briefing on extradition and mutual legal assistance.

Exchange of information may allay fears of US authorities.

IV. ILEA

Although US authorities seem to prefer to seek Member States participation in ILEA on a bilateral base it was felt that the role of the European Union might be reexamined e.g. in the light of PHARE activities.

The question was raised whether there was a need for training efforts in other parts of the world. If needed, to what extent should these efforts be undertaken in conjunction with the USA ?

The mission to Latin America was invited to explore this issue at its forthcoming trip.

VI. Cybercrime

The Committee concluded that for the moment no particular action is foreseen in the field of cybercrime.

VII. Exchange of information on technical issues and national exchange of observers to US facilities and vice versa.

The Committee welcomed the invitation for an EU delegation to visit the Intelligence Centre in El Paso (EPIC) with possible participation of EDU experts.

VIII. Organized crime

The Committee agreed on the proposal of the Presidency to organize a meeting of the Drugs and Organized crime Group with the US delegation.

IX. Strengthening cooperation on refugee and migration issues.

A. US/EU dialogue on problems of refugees and displaced persons in Central and Eastern Europe and Bosnia in the Third Pillar context.

The Committee felt that no new consultation mechanism on before mentioned countries/regions are needed. Existing channels are appropriate.

B. US attendance at sessions of CIREA and CIREFI

The Committee agreed on exchange of information with the USA on immigration and asylum matters with CIREFI and CIREA experts.

It agreed to invite COREPER to confirm the holding of such meetings during the Irish Presidency.

C. Asylum policy

The Committee confirmed that the conclusion of a parallel convention to the Dublin Convention with the United States is not a priority.

The offer of the US delegation to make available expertise and technical knowledge in regard to Eurodac was welcomed.

The Presidency announced that it would inform appropriate fora on the outcome of the present meeting.
