COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION

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CORDROGUE 3

NOTE

from:	European Commission and EMCDDA
to:	Horizontal Working Party on Drugs
Subject:	The second European conference on drug supply indicators: conclusions of the Chairs

Delegations will find in annex the above-mentioned conclusions following from the conference held on 22-23 November 2012 in Lisbon.

2nd European Conference on drug supply indicators: conclusions of the Chairs

The EMCDDA and the European Commission have been asked to prepare a proposal for key indicators for the drug supply area. Two technical conferences supported by expert working groups in three areas (drug markets, drug supply reduction and drug-related crime) recognised that:

- we should build on the ongoing work in this area at the national, European and International level, adopting a developmental approach coherent with national realities and needs;
- routine reporting needs at EU level should be based upon a restricted set of core data.

Existing data for key indicators

Priority should be given to improving the quality and analytical potential of information already collected in this area. The following data are routinely collected by the EMCDDA and should be developed to improve their usefulness: seizures; purity and content; prices; drug law offences. In all these areas there is a need to distinguish between different levels of the supply chain. The EMCDDA also collects information on supply reduction activities by national and European bodies.

Other relevant data has been identified. Of particular note is: information on precursors held by the European Commission; on cross-border prosecutions held by Eurojust; on organised crime, and on the dismantling of production facilities, held by Europol. As Member States have an obligation to report supply data to UNODC, synergies here are also important. Within the EU there is a need to ensure efficient reporting practices and avoid the duplication of efforts.

The greater inclusion of forensic science data in EU drug monitoring will be beneficial and work and network development is ongoing in this area.

Potential new or underdeveloped sources of information

It is important to explore the potential of new data and to be flexible to new information needs. Priority should be given to exploring the relative cost to benefits of data collection in the following areas: case studies of relevant seizures; information on origins and flows; the recovery of criminal assets; the better identification of drug related crimes; and the use of the Internet for supply purposes.

Contextual information and expertise is essential for the interpretation of data in this area. Accessing the invaluable data that exists within the law enforcement community and incorporating findings from research are both essential to developing understanding in this area. Demand side data (such as : market size estimates, drug users perspectives, perceived availability) are also necessary to fully understand supply side issues.

Support for data collection and interpretation

At national level, to provide a point for communication and access to expertise, a correspondent for drug supply issues is required. The correspondent will provide a link to the agencies whose activities generate information in this area (particularly, law enforcement and forensic science). They will work in close consultation with, and maintain appropriate links with the Reitox National Focal points and Europol national units. Correspondents will be selected by national authorities.

At European level, a technical reference group on drug supply issues is needed and should be established by the EMCDDA. It will consist of the national correspondents (or their recommended experts) and work within the context of the existing systems for data collection and reporting at EU level. The task of this group will be to support: methodological and technical developments; reporting, analysis and interpretation of data; and communication and feedback with data providers.

ANNEX

The following 3 Key Indicators along with their associated sub-indicators were presented to and discussed by the expert participants at the Conference.

1. Key indicator: drug markets

The following sub-indicators are part of this indicator:

- Seizures

- Precursors

- Production facilities dismantled

- Origins and flows of drugs available on European markets

- Products

- Prices

- Availability

- Drug supply offences

- Market size

- Contextual data (law enforcement activities)

2. Key indicator: drug supply reduction

The following sub-indicators are part of this indicator:

- Descriptive analysis of drug law enforcement organisation and activities related to drug supply reduction

- Descriptive analysis of criminal justice systems activities related to drug supply reduction

- Seizures

- Precursors

- Prices

- Drug supply offences

- Recovery of criminal assets

- Contextual data (legal and regulatory framework)

3. Key Indicator: drug-related crime

The following sub-indicators are part of this indicator:

- Reported crime (amongst which drug law offences)

- Convictions and sanctions (amongst which drug law offences)

- Imprisonment/prison population (amongst which drug law offences)

- Sanctions applied (amongst which drug law offences)

- Estimates of total drug-related crime

- Contextual data (organised crime, corruption, money laundering, seizures of criminal assets)

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