



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 29 June 2018
(OR. en)

10608/18

LIMITE

COLAC 53
CFSP/PESC 631
CONOP 55

NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	EU-Cuba Joint Council - Draft modalities on non-proliferation and WMD

Modalities of the EU-Cuba Political Dialogue on Disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (Art. 7 PDCA)

The Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement signed between the EU and Cuba in December 2016 foresees in the framework of its overall political dialogue the establishment of a Dialogue on Disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.¹

The Parties agree to conduct the Dialogue on Disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction according to the following modalities:

1. Objectives

- a. To discuss positions and exchange views on Disarmament and the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, with a view to cooperate and to contribute to international efforts on disarmament, the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction in all its aspects, and their means of delivery and national arms export controls.
- b. To exchange views and cooperate with a view to taking steps to possibly sign, ratify or accede to, as appropriate, relevant international instruments and to implement and fully comply with the instruments to which they are Parties.

¹ Art. 7.6 PDCA: "The Parties agree to establish a regular dialogue with the objective of accompanying their cooperation in this area."

2. Principles

- a. The Dialogue shall be conducted on the basis of mutual respect, sovereign equality, reciprocity, full respect and adherence to International law and to the purposes and the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, as well as of in conformity with the Parties' respective constitutional principles, legal frameworks, norms and regulations, as well as the applicable international instruments to which they are Parties.
- b. These modalities are not intended to create any legal or financial obligations under international or national law.

3. Format

- a. The Dialogue on Disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction will be conducted by the Parties, as defined in Article 84 of the PDCA, and should be led by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Cuba and the EU counterpart. Both sides envisage to ensure that they are represented according to their own internal arrangements and in such a way as to facilitate meaningful discussions on the full range of agreed agenda items.
- b. The Dialogue should be held on an annual basis, and should be hosted on an alternating basis by each side, unless agreed otherwise. Dates, venues and agenda should be agreed through diplomatic channels prior to each meeting.
- c. Each annual meeting of the Dialogue should last a full day, unless otherwise mutually decided.

- d. The Parties recognise the potential contribution of civil society and may suggest to the other the convening of an event at the margins of the Dialogue with civil society organisations considered relevant by both sides aimed at sharing of experiences and knowledge on the items of discussion.

4. Agenda/practical arrangements

- a. The agenda of each session of the Dialogue should reflect an adequate balance. Topics to be discussed should be previously agreed by the Parties.
- b. The meetings and deliberations shall not be public. The Parties may agree to give visibility to the Dialogue through mutually agreed means.

5. Budget

Each Party should bear the cost of participation of its delegates in all meetings, in accordance with its own rules and regulations, including simultaneous interpretation.

6. Operational conclusions

At the end of each Dialogue the Parties could formulate mutually agreed conclusions.