Council of the European Union

Brussels, 20 February 2024
(OR. en)

6689/24

Interinstitutional File: 2024/0001(NLE)

CORDROGUE 20
SAN 91
RELEX 205

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)/Council
Subject:	Council Decision on the position to be taken, on behalf of the European Union, in the sixty-seventh session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on the scheduling of the substances under the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol, and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 *- Adoption*

1. The United Nations (UN) Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol, and the UN Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 ('the Conventions') are the main international drug control treaties, together with the UN Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988.

2. States parties to the Conventions are required to ensure that the mandatory control measures are applied to the substances listed in the Schedules annexed to the Conventions. The purpose of this listing is to control and limit the use of these drugs according to a classification of their therapeutic value, risk of abuse and health dangers, and to minimise the diversion of precursor chemicals to illegal drug manufacturers.

3. Decisions to change the scope of control of substances are taken by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND), through decisions to make changes to the Schedules of the Conventions, on the basis of recommendations by the World Health Organisation.

4. At its 67th session taking place from 14 to 22 March 2024 in Vienna, the CND is to adopt decisions on the scheduling of substances under the Conventions.

5. On 9 January 2024, the Commission presented a proposal for a Council Decision on the position to be taken, on behalf of the European Union, in the 67th session of the CND on the scheduling of substances under the Conventions (ST 5111/24 + ADD 1).

6. The Commission proposal was analysed at the meeting of the Horizontal Working Party on Drugs (HDG) on 16-17 January 2024. The revised version of the proposal, as set out in ST 5370/24, was endorsed by the HDG at its meeting on 13-14 February 2024.

7. In view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is requested to invite the Council to adopt, as an 'A' item at one of its forthcoming sessions, Council Decision, as finalised by the legal-linguistic experts and set out in ST 6501/24, on the position to be taken, on behalf of the European Union, in the 67th session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on the scheduling of substances under the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol, and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971.