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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Outcome Document of the XXVth High-Level Meeting of the EU-CELAC Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs 8 May 2025, Warsaw (Poland)

Delegations will find in the Annex the above-mentioned outcome document, endorsed at the XXVth High-Level Meeting of the EU-CELAC Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs, which took place in Warsaw (Poland) on 8 May 2025.

**Outcome Document of the XXVth High-Level Meeting of the
EU-CELAC Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs**

8 May 2025, Warsaw (Poland)



1. We, the Member States of the European Union (EU) and the Presidency of the Council of the European Union and the Member States of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), assisted by the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union, the European Commission, and the European External Action Service, having met in Warsaw on 8 May 2025, under the joint leadership of the Polish Presidency of the Council of the EU and the Colombian CELAC Presidency, at the XXVth High-Level Meeting of the EU-CELAC Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs, and convinced of the importance to meet and discuss solutions to the challenges related to drugs hereby state the following:

2. That in compliance with the Working Procedures of the EU-CELAC Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs of 2009¹, this outcome document containing initiatives for political dialogue and for coordination and bi-regional cooperation was produced through cooperation between the CELAC and EU countries and submitted by the Technical Committee for adoption at this XXVth High-Level Meeting of the Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs between the European Union and the CELAC.

¹ Adopted at the XI High-Level Meeting of the EU-LAC Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs, Quito, 26-27 May 2009, part II, sub-heading 'High-Level Meeting', paragraph 'c' of chapter 'Main functions.'

3. In accordance the previous bi-regional Declarations, in particular the La Paz declaration endorsed at the XXIVth High-Level Meeting of the CELAC-EU Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs, which took place in La Paz (Bolivia) on 22 February 2024, **we reaffirm the importance of the Mechanism as a bi-regional forum for dialogue and cooperation** built on mutual understanding on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility, a balanced, comprehensive, integrated and evidence based approach, in full conformity with the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments that constitute the cornerstone of the international drug control system, and with the purposes and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law, and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, all human rights, fundamental freedoms, the inherent dignity of all individuals and the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States².

4. **We commit to reinforce the Mechanism as the main platform for bi-regional cooperation on drugs** to promote and intensify political dialogue, coordination and cooperation, including at operational and technical cooperation between both regions, in effectively addressing and countering all aspects of the world drug problem³.

5. We reaffirm that, in the spirit of the implementation of the La Paz Declaration, we need to **strengthen our individual and joint actions, programmes and initiatives at the national, regional and international levels** to accelerate the implementation of our joint commitments to address and counter the world drug problem.

6. We reaffirm **our political** will by participating in this XXVth High-Level Meeting of the EU-CELAC Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs, and its related meetings, for continued coordination of and cooperation on drugs policies between our regions, as evidenced by the exchanges that took place during the past High-Level Meetings.

² Paragraph 2 of the La Paz declaration

³ Paragraph 4 of the La Paz declaration

I. Discussions and thematic debates which took place at the XXVth High-Level Meeting

7. **At the XXVth High-Level Meeting, the focus** was placed on continued, bi-regional political dialogue, cooperation in the area of drugs, and the implementation of the La Paz Declaration, and bi-regional cooperation programmes as well as on fostering coordination at multilateral fora.

8. **Four thematic debates** were held on topics 1 to 4 of the La Paz declaration.

II. Orientations for continued cooperation activities in the implementation of the La Paz Declaration

9. We reaffirm our **resolve to continue the operationalisation of the La Paz Declaration in our respective regions in a comprehensive and shared way**, in line with the identified priority areas listed below, and through short-term objectives:

- 1) Addressing and countering the illicit production and trafficking of drugs, including cocaine, their consequences on citizen security and public health, and their social and economic impact on people and communities.
- 2) Addressing and countering the manufacture and trafficking of New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) and other synthetic drugs, their consequences on citizen security, and their social, health and economic impact on people and affected communities, including via early warning.
- 3) Addressing substance use and substance use disorders, including abuse, issues related to health, including mental health, and social vulnerabilities, focusing on prevention and treatment quality standards.
- 4) Addressing the link between drugs and crimes that affect the environment, countering such crimes and tackling their negative impacts, including the effects of illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, the effects of drug manufacturing, and waste disposal on the environment, on local communities, and providing corresponding drug policy responses.
- 5) Addressing and countering other forms of organised crime related to drug trafficking such as money laundering and firearms trafficking and their negative effect on the economy and citizen security.

10. We recognise **the value of the bilateral cooperation between EU and CELAC countries**, to enhance, promote and strengthen the implementation of effective drug policies at multilateral, regional, sub-regional, national and local level.

11. We encourage the **EU-CLASI** (Latin America Committee on Internal Security) cooperation to contribute to the objectives agreed in the present bi-regional Mechanism. We welcome especially the international cooperation by countries of our regional blocs that deepen their cooperation to more effectively achieve the joint objectives of these policies.

12. We reiterate the **importance of EU-funded programmes for strengthening our bi-regional cooperation in the area of drugs and for the implementation of the La Paz Declaration**, such as the Cooperation Programme between Latin America, the Caribbean, and the European Union on Drugs Policies (COPOLAD III) on drug policies, EUROFRONT on border management, EL PACCTO 2.0 on transnational organised crime, as well as the Global Illicit Flows Programme (GIFP) on organised crime in relation to global illicit flows, to intensify all joint efforts in a comprehensive manner⁴.

13. We welcome in particular the extension of the third phase of **COPOLAD** that follows up on the accomplishments achieved during its previous phases and by addressing existing and new challenges related to the world drug problem. We recognise COPOLAD's important role in supporting the work of the Mechanism and comprehensive approach to the drug-related issues improving the coherence, balance and impact of drugs policies, through supporting their development, facilitating the exchange of experiences, bi-regional coordination and promoting multi-sectoral, comprehensive and coordinated responses. In the current period, COPOLAD's support has been significant in achieving a balanced fulfilment of the various priorities of the La Paz Declaration and in this regard, we look forward to COPOLAD's future activities. and efforts in support of the long-standing bi-regional work between CELAC and EU on drug-related issues.

⁴ Based on paragraph 5 of the La Paz declaration

14. We also welcome the continued implementation of the relevant components of the EU's GIFP, i.e. Airport Communication Programme (**AIRCOP**), Seaport Cooperation Project (**SEACOP**), the Project "Strengthening Criminal Investigation and criminal justice cooperation along drug trafficking routes" (**CRIMJUST**), the Project "Monitoring and Controlling General Aviation along the Cocaine Route" (**COLIBRI**), the Monitoring and Support Project for the Global Illicit Flows Programme (**MASIF**), and the Programme Strengthening Latin America's Development and Security (**EUROFRONT**) in particular, taking into account the countries participating in these programmes.

15. We welcome the official launching of **EL PACCTO 2.0 programme** in Panama in March 2024, and the implementation of actions that aim: to enhance regional and bi-regional structures and mechanisms for cooperation on justice and security such as EU-CLASI, the promotion of judicial cooperation and the strengthening of AMERIPOL; to support strengthening of justice and security institutions, including actions on the economic dimension of crime, and with a focus on women and youth-specific concerns; to address transnational criminal markets such as drug trafficking, firearms trafficking, human trafficking, cultural goods trafficking, environmental crimes⁵, and cybercrimes.

III. Adoption of the Annual Report

16. The **Annual Report** of the EU-CELAC Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism outlines on an annual basis the activities conducted in the framework of the Mechanism as well as in the framework of the various aforementioned programmes and initiatives.

17. The Annual Report of the EU-CELAC Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs **from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024** was presented and endorsed at the XXVth High-Level Meeting.

⁵ In relation to the use of the term "environmental crimes" in this document, the Argentine Republic expresses its preference for "crimes that affect the environment" as expressed in La Paz Declaration.

IV. Reference to the forthcoming multilateral meetings and possible identification of common interests and principles with a view to these meetings

18. We reaffirm that the EU and CELAC will, within the mandate of the Mechanism, **continue their cooperation to address and counter the world drug problem in the framework of the United Nations**, notably within the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in particular at its upcoming reconvened and regular sessions, as well as in other relevant UN bodies and instruments.

V. Short-term objectives of the La Paz Declaration

19. We reaffirm that the updated short-term objectives of the La Paz Declaration outlining specific indicative actions should facilitate the progressive implementation by both sides of the Declaration, while preserving its completeness. Following the endorsement of the updated short-term objectives at the XXVth High-Level Meeting, they will remain valid until the next High-Level Meeting in 2026.

VI. Indication of the next EU and CELAC co-Presidencies and dates of the High-Level Meeting for the following year

20. The next co-Presidencies of the Mechanism will be held, for CELAC by the **Dominican Republic** for the term 2025/2026, and for the EU by **Denmark** during the second semester 2025 and by **Cyprus** during the first semester 2026.

21. We agree to convene the **XXVIth High-Level Meeting** of the Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs between the CELAC and the European Union in the first semester of 2026 in the Dominican Republic.

22. We express our will to continue to further implement the La Paz declaration of 22 February 2024 and adopt further Declarations within the framework of the High-Level Meeting of the Mechanism between the CELAC and the European Union, with the next Declaration to be adopted in 2029.