



FACT SHEET from the EU drugs agency in Lisbon

EU DRUGS AGENCY FORMALISES RELATIONS WITH PUBLICATIONS OFFICE

Cooperation to help promote EMCDDA's work on drugs and drug addiction

The European Union's drugs agency, the EMCDDA, has signed an agreement with the EU's Publications Office to formalise the long standing cooperation between them, ensuring its publications reach an ever wider audience.

The Office for Official Publications of the European Communities is the publishing house of the EU's institutions and other bodies, and distributes their publications via all media. It has worked with the EMCDDA since the latter was founded in 1993, including the simultaneous publication, now in 22 languages, of the *Annual report on the state of the drugs problem in Europe*.

To make the cooperation as smooth as possible, the EMCDDA is to provide the Publications Office in advance with an annual programme of its publications, and let it know of other important dates that arise, such as conferences and symposia.

For its part, the Publications Office will be helping the EMCDDA disseminate information about its work gathering and analysing information about drug-related issues, by distributing its publications via EU Bookshop (bookshop.europa.eu), the virtual library containing some 50 000 publications, the oldest dating back to 1952. Journalists have shown a keen interest in the Centre's publications, using them as the basis for news items and for reference, but the aim is to reach a still wider public.

The agreement foresees the Publications Office catering for the production of all publications from design stage to distribution – in paper form or electronically. It will also be publicising the EMCDDA's for-sale publications through its own well developed sales network, based on advance information about the EMCDDA's projects. The Publications Office will be actively involved in the dissemination of the Centre's free publications.

The Publications Office is also responsible for the task of cataloguing publications and the allocation of ISBN, ISSN and other international identifiers for them, as well as the electronic archiving of all EMCDDA publications.

The EMCDDA, however, retains full responsibility for ensuring that it has the authorisation from the copyright holders concerned to reproduce outside material used in its publications, and of paying any fees required.

The agreement between the two institutions was signed at a ceremony in Lisbon on June 8, attended by Publications Office Director General Thomas Cranfield and EMCDDA Director Wolfgang Götz.

Under the terms of the agreement, officials from the two sides will meet at least once a year to assess its implementation.