

**Working Arrangement  
between the  
European Union Drugs Agency  
and the  
Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction**

The European Union Drugs Agency (EUDA) is a decentralised agency of the European Union, whose overall mission is to strengthen EU preparedness on drugs through four key interconnected service categories: anticipate, alert, respond and learn. Today's drug situation is complex, with potent substances being produced, trafficked and sold on an unprecedented scale. The EUDA plays a critical role in responding to the phenomenon of illicit drug use and trafficking, which threaten the health and security of EU citizens. The agency ensures that the EU is ready and able to face the challenges posed by the drug situation, both today and in the future. Its work contributes to making Europe's streets safer and saving lives. The EUDA also assists EU institutions and Member States in anticipating and responding effectively to drug-related threats. It issues health and security alerts, risk communications, shares knowledge and recommends evidence-based policies and actions to address problems efficiently. All of this is pursuant to the conditions set out in Regulation (EU) 2023/1322 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2023;

Created by an act of Parliament in 1988, the Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction (CCSA) provides national leadership on substance use health in Canada, bridging science and action. As the only national organisation in Canada mandated to address both the health and public safety aspects of substance use, CCSA works to address alcohol- and other drug-related harms through a balanced approach that prioritises both individual well-being and collective security. As an independent, neutral, and non-partisan organisation firmly rooted in science and driven by compassion, CCSA forges meaningful connections across sectors and communities and advances integrated, community-based solutions to substance use issues. CCSA develops research, analyses, and solutions on substance use health and supports monitoring, care delivery and education. CCSA will sign this Working Arrangement in the field of drug supply and demand reduction;

Article 53 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1322 specifies that the EUDA is to actively seek to cooperate with international organisations and other bodies, in particular Union, governmental and non-governmental bodies and with technical bodies competent in matters covered by the Regulation, and that such cooperation is to be based on working arrangements concluded with these bodies;

The Management Board of the EUDA, after receiving the prior approval of the European Commission, adopted the draft Working Arrangement and authorised the EUDA Executive Director to sign the present Working Arrangement.

## **Section 1**

### **Purpose of the Working Arrangement**

The purpose of this Working Arrangement between the European Union Drugs Agency and the Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction is to outline the areas in which the EUDA and the CCSA (collectively referred hereinafter as Sides) intend to cooperate, covering a range of fields (Section 2) and modes of cooperation (Section 3), as further specified in the Joint Work Programme.

## **Section 2**

### **Scope of cooperation**

Cooperation between the Sides should take place in line with the mandate of the EUDA as established in Regulation (EU) 2023/1322 and intends to cover the following areas:

- a) Drug observatories, national drug information systems and early-warning systems;
- b) Production and trafficking of illicit drugs and new psychoactive substances;
- c) Drivers and consequences of drug markets;
- d) Prevention of drug use and its consequences;
- e) Increased preparedness;
- f) Contribution to international monitoring and drug control programmes;
- g) Production, diversion and trafficking of precursors;
- h) Policies and legislation;
- i) Innovation in treatment, social reintegration and harm reduction.

## **Section 3**

### **Modalities of cooperation**

Cooperation between the Sides under this Working Arrangement should involve:

- a) Support for the strengthening of the Canadian Drug Observatory and the establishment of an early-warning system on drugs;
- b) Exchange of expertise, research findings and experiences with methodologies for collecting and using data and information in the areas mentioned above (Section 2);
- c) Exchange of data and information in the areas mentioned above (Section 2), including on emerging drug trends and on new psychoactive substances (NPS);

- d) Co-production of targeted analysis, in line with the priority issues laid out in Section 2;
- e) Facilitation of study visits and missions, including those of a long-term nature, by representatives of the Sides.

#### **Section 4**

##### **Contact point(s) for cooperation**

Each of the signing Sides should designate and notify to each other a contact person for maintaining continued dialogue with a view to ensuring the efficient and full application of the present Working Arrangement.

#### **Section 5**

##### **Data exchange and data protection**

Data exchange between the EUDA and CCSA is voluntary and will respect information security and data protection rules in accordance with applicable legislation. The data exchange does not extend to classified information, while the sharing of sensitive non-classified information <sup>(1)</sup> will have a limited dissemination.

The Working Arrangement will not be used as a mechanism for the transfer of personal data from EUDA to the CCSA.

#### **Section 6**

##### **Financial provisions**

The Working Arrangement does not, nor is it intended to, create any rights or obligations on either side under domestic or international law. It also does not contain political or financial commitments.

#### **Section 7**

##### **Anti-fraud measures**

The Sides acknowledge that in accordance with Article 48(4) and (5) of the EUDA Regulation, the European Court of Auditors (ECA) and the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) have the power to conduct audits and investigations, which may also include on-the-spot checks and inspections, over all grant beneficiaries, contractors and subcontractors who have received Union funds from the agency.

#### **Section 8**

##### **Settlement of disputes**

Any dispute about the interpretation or application of this Working Arrangement will be resolved by consultations between the Sides, and will not be referred to any national or international tribunal or third party for settlement.

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<sup>(1)</sup> As provided in Article 49 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1322.

## **Section 9**

### **Amendment, supplements and duration of the Working Arrangement**

This Working Arrangement may be amended and supplemented in writing at any time by mutual consent between the Sides. The Sides will enter into consultations with respect to the amendments and supplements of this Working Arrangement at the request of either of them. The Management Board of the EUDA will adopt these amendments and supplements. The Working Arrangement may be terminated in writing by either of the Sides with a six-month notice period.

This Working Arrangement has been prepared in English.

Date of signing: 17 November 2025, Halifax.

**For the  
European Union Drugs Agency**

**Alexis Goosdeel  
Executive Director**

**For the  
Canadian Centre on Substance Use  
and Addiction**

**Dr Alex Caudarella  
CEO**