



PRESS RELEASE

European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction

Lisbon, 20 June 1997

EMCDDA elects new Chairman

A new Chairman of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) was elected at the agency's 10th Management Board meeting in Lisbon on 19 and 20 June.

Mr Franz-Josef Bindert of the Ministry of Health, Germany, was elected for a three-year term, replacing Portugal's Vítor Feytor Pinto at the organisation's helm. Mr Bindert, formerly vice-chairman of the Board, will take up his position on 22 November 1997, when Father Pinto's term draws to a close. Father Pinto, who was elected on 22 July 1994, did not stand again as Chairman. Mr Marcel Reimen of the Ministry of Health, Luxembourg, was elected to the position of vice-chairman.

The Management Board is the main decision-making body of the EMCDDA which meets twice a year to discuss administrative matters such as the adoption of the work programme and the budget. The Management Board consists of one representative from each Member State of the European Union, two representatives of the European Commission and two persons highly qualified in the field of drugs designated by the European Parliament.

At the meeting, the Management Board discussed the 1998–2000 work programme of the agency as well as other issues including the *Annual Report on the state of the drugs problem in the European Union* for 1996 and the role of the National Monitoring Centres of the Reitox network.

The EMCDDA, an autonomous, decentralised European Community agency, aims to collect and analyse currently available data on the global drugs problem, in particular data relating to the demand for drugs and reduction of demand. It seeks to improve data comparison methods throughout the European Union and to provide decision-makers, professionals and the general public with reliable information on the drug phenomenon. Please contact: K. Robertson, EMCDDA. Tel. (351 1) 811 3000. Fax (351 1) 813 06 15. Rua da Cruz de Santa Apolónia, 23–25, 1100 Lisbon.

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