



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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10397/12

PUBLIC 32

NOTE

Subject: MONTHLY SUMMARY OF COUNCIL ACTS MARCH 2012

This document consists of the following:

- ANNEX I containing a list of acts adopted by the Council in MARCH 2012.^{1 2}
- ANNEX II containing further details on the adoption of these acts. PART I provides information on the adoption of legislative acts, such as the date of adoption, the relevant Council session, the number of the document adopted, and where appropriate, applicable voting rules, voting results, explanations of vote and statements published in the minutes of the Council. PART II provides information that the Council has decided to make public on the adoption of other acts.

¹ With the exception of certain acts of limited scope such as procedural decisions, appointments, decisions of bodies set up by international agreements, specific budgetary decisions, etc.

² In the case of legislative acts adopted in the ordinary legislative procedure, there may be a difference between the date of the Council's meeting where the legislative act is adopted and the actual date of the act in question, since legislative acts adopted in the ordinary legislative procedure are only considered to have been adopted after signature by both the President of the Council and the President of the European Parliament and the Secretaries-General of the two Institutions.

This document is also available via the Internet at:

<http://consilium.europa.eu/documents/legislative-transparency/monthly-summaries-of-council-acts>

Documents listed in the summary may be obtained from the public register of Council documents at: <http://consilium.europa.eu/documents/access-to-council-documents-public-register>

It should be noted that only the minutes concerning the definitive adoption of legislative acts are authentic. These are available via the Internet at:

<http://consilium.europa.eu/documents/legislative-transparency/council-minutes>

**LIST OF ACTS ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL
IN MARCH 2012**

3151st meeting of the Council of the European Union (Justice and Home Affairs) held in Brussels on 8 March 2012

Decision No 281/2012/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 March 2012 amending Decision No 573/2007/EC establishing the European Refugee Fund for the period 2008 to 2013 as part of the General programme ‘Solidarity and Management of Migration Flows’
OJ L 92, 30.3.2012, p. 1–3

Regulation (EU) No 258/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 March 2012 implementing Article 10 of the United Nations’ Protocol against the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime (UN Firearms Protocol), and establishing export authorisation, and import and transit measures for firearms, their parts and components and ammunition
OJ L 94, 30.3.2012, p. 1–15

Directive 2012/12/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 April 2012 amending Council Directive 2001/112/EC relating to fruit juices and certain similar products intended for human consumption
OJ L 115, 27.4.2012, p. 1–11

Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a single European railway area (Recast)
18581/11 + COR 1 + COR 2 (pl) + REV 1 (el) + ADD 1

Council Conclusions on the follow-up to the Schengen evaluation conducted in 2009-2010 - Schengen evaluation of France
6334/12

Council Implementing Decision 2012/144/CFSP of 8 March 2012 implementing Decision 2010/656/CFSP renewing the restrictive measures against Côte d’Ivoire
OJ L 71, 9.3.2012, p. 50–54

Council Implementing Regulation (EU) No 193/2012 of 8 March 2012 implementing Regulation (EC) No 560/2005 imposing certain specific restrictive measures directed against certain persons and entities in view of the situation in Côte d’Ivoire
OJ L 71, 9.3.2012, p. 5–9

2009/496/EC, Euratom: Decision of the European Parliament, the Council, the Commission, the Court of Justice, the Court of Auditors, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions of 26 June 2009 on the organisation and operation of the Publications Office of the European Union
OJ L 168, 30.6.2009, p. 41–47

Council Decision on the conclusion of an Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and the Kingdom of Morocco concerning reciprocal liberalisation measures on agricultural products, processed agricultural products, fish and fishery products, the replacement of Protocols 1, 2 and 3 and their Annexes and amendments to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Kingdom of Morocco, of the other part
15975/10

2012/176/EU: Council Decision of 8 March 2012 on the conclusion of a Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Kingdom of Morocco, of the other part, on a framework agreement between the European Union and the Kingdom of Morocco on the general principles for the participation of the Kingdom of Morocco in Union programmes
OJ L 90, 28.3.2012, p. 1–1

Council Conclusions on Special Report No 12/2011 from the European Court of Auditors entitled "Have EU measures contributed to adapting the capacity of the fishing fleets to available fishing opportunities?"
6508/12

2012/243/EU: Council Decision of 8 March 2012 on the conclusion of a Memorandum of Cooperation between the European Union and the International Civil Aviation Organization providing a framework for enhanced cooperation, and laying down procedural arrangements related thereto
OJ L 121, 8.5.2012, p. 16–17

Council Conclusions regarding guidelines for the strengthening of political governance in the Schengen cooperation
7238/12 REV 2

Council Conclusions on a common framework for genuine and practical solidarity towards Member States facing particular pressures on their asylum systems including through mixed migration flows
7115/12

Council Conclusions regarding guidelines for the strengthening of political governance in the Schengen cooperation
7238/12 REV 2

3152nd meeting of the Council of the European Union (Environment) held in Brussels on 9 March 2012

Council Decision on a Union position within the EU-U.S. Joint Customs Cooperation Committee regarding mutual recognition of the Authorised Economic Operator Programme of the European Union and the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism Program of the United States
6759/12 ADD 1 COR 1 (lt)

Council Decision on the signing and conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia establishing a framework for the participation of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in European Union crisis management operations
6653/12

Council Decision on the signing and conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and Bosnia and Herzegovina establishing a framework for the participation of Bosnia and Herzegovina in European Union crisis management operations
17177/11

Council Conclusions on a Roadmap for moving to a competitive low-carbon economy in 2050
6837/12

Council Conclusions on a follow-up to the 17th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 17) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the 7th session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP 7) (Durban, South Africa, 28 November - 9 December 2011)
6841/12

Council Conclusions on Rio + 20: Pathways to a sustainable future
6892/12

3153rd meeting of the Council of the European Union (Economic and Financial Affairs) held in Brussels on 13 March 2012

Council Conclusions on the Special Report No 13/2011 by the Court of Auditors concerning customs procedure 42
6967/12 + COR 1 + COR 2 (pt)

2012/193/EU: Council Decision of 13 March 2012 on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Arrangement between the European Union and the Republic of Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Kingdom of Norway and the Swiss Confederation on the participation by those States in the work of the committees which assist the European Commission in the exercise of its executive powers as regards the implementation, application and development of the Schengen acquis
OJ L 103, 13.4.2012, p. 3–3

Council Conclusions on the EU's position for the 85th Session of the International Cocoa Organisation (ICCO) Council (Guayaquil, Ecuador, 26-30 March 2012)
7148/12 REV 1

Council Decision 2012/149/CFSP of 13 March 2012 amending Decision 2010/638/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against the Republic of Guinea
OJ L 74, 14.3.2012, p. 8–8

Council Decision 2012/150/CFSP of 13 March 2012 amending Decision 2011/872/CFSP updating the list of persons, groups and entities subject to Articles 2, 3 and 4 of Common Position 2001/931/CFSP on the application of specific measures to combat terrorism
OJ L 74, 14.3.2012, p. 9–10

Council Implementing Regulation (EU) No 213/2012 of 13 March 2012 amending Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1375/2011 implementing Article 2(3) of Regulation (EC) No 2580/2001 on specific restrictive measures directed against certain persons and entities with a view to combating terrorism
OJ L 74, 14.3.2012, p. 1–2

2012/156/EU: Council Implementing Decision of 13 March 2012 suspending commitments from the Cohesion Fund for Hungary with effect from 1 January 2013
OJ L 78, 17.3.2012, p. 19–20

Council Conclusions on Alert Mechanism Report
6905/12 REV 1

2012/211/EU: Council Decision of 13 March 2012 amending Decision 2011/734/EU addressed to Greece with a view to reinforcing and deepening fiscal surveillance and giving notice to Greece to take measures for the deficit reduction judged necessary to remedy the situation of excessive deficit
OJ L 113, 25.4.2012, p. 8–10

3154th meeting of the Council of the European Union (Foreign Affairs/Trade) held in Brussels on 16 March 2012

Council Conclusions on the EU's approach to trade, growth and development in the next decade
7412/12

3155th meeting of the Council of the European Union (AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES) held in Brussels on 19 and 20 March 2012

Council Conclusions on an EU strategy regarding the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)
7132/12 REV 1

Council Conclusions on the Special Report No 11/2011 from the European Court of Auditors entitled "Do the design and management of the geographical indications scheme allow it to be effective?"
7484/12

Council Decision of 19 March 2012 renewing the term of office of the Vice-President of the Community Plant Variety Office
OJ C 82, 21.3.2012, p. 6–6

Council Decision 2012/159/CFSP of 19 March 2012 amending Decision 2011/172/CFSP concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons, entities and bodies in view of the situation in Egypt
OJ L 80, 20.3.2012, p. 18–18

Council Decision 2012/158/CFSP of 19 March 2012 amending Decision 2011/173/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina
OJ L 80, 20.3.2012, p. 17–17

2012/177/EU: Council Decision of 19 March 2012 amending Decision 1999/70/EC concerning the external auditors of the national central banks, as regards the external auditors of the Bank of Greece
OJ L 90, 28.3.2012, p. 21–21

Council Conclusions on a Communication from the Commission on the External dimension of the Common Fisheries Policy
7087/12 REV 1 ADD 1 COR 1

**3156th meeting of the Council of the European Union (TRANSPORT
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY) held in Brussels on 22 March 2012**

Regulation (EU) No 386/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 April 2012 on entrusting the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (Trade Marks and Designs) with tasks related to the enforcement of intellectual property rights, including the assembling of public and private-sector representatives as a European Observatory on Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights Text with EEA relevance
OJ L 129, 16.5.2012, p. 1–6

Regulation (EU) No 387/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 April 2012 amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1198/2006 on the European Fisheries Fund, as regards certain provisions relating to financial management for certain Member States experiencing or threatened with serious difficulties with respect to their financial stability
OJ L 129, 16.5.2012, p. 7–11

3157th meeting of the Council of the European Union (FOREIGN AFFAIRS) held in Brussels on 22 and 23 March 2012

Council Decision on the signing and conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Albania establishing a framework for the participation of the Republic of Albania in European Union crisis management operations
9993/11

Council Decision 2012/174/CFSP of 23 March 2012 amending Joint Action 2008/851/CFSP on a European Union military operation to contribute to the deterrence, prevention and repression of acts of piracy and armed robbery off the Somali coast
OJ L 89, 27.3.2012, p. 69–71

Council Decision 2012/173/CFSP of 23 March 2012 on the activation of the EU Operations Centre for the Common Security and Defence Policy missions and operation in the Horn of Africa
OJ L 89, 27.3.2012, p. 66–68

Council Decision 2012/166/CFSP of 23 March 2012 in support of activities of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) in the framework of the implementation of the EU Strategy against Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction
OJ L 87, 24.3.2012, p. 49–59

Approval of the position to be adopted by the European Union and its Member States within the Association Council established by the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, of the other part, with regard to the adoption of a Recommendation on the implementation of the EU-Jordan ENP Action Plan
7685/12 REV 1 ADD 1

Council Decision 2012/170/CFSP of 23 March 2012 amending Decision 2010/573/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against the leadership of the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova
OJ L 87, 24.3.2012, p. 92–94

Council Implementing Decision 2012/171/CFSP of 23 March 2012 implementing Decision 2010/639/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Belarus
OJ L 87, 24.3.2012, p. 95–102

Council Implementing Regulation (EU) No 265/2012 of 23 March 2012 implementing Article 8a(1) of Regulation (EC) No 765/2006 concerning restrictive measures in respect of Belarus
OJ L 87, 24.3.2012, p. 37–44

Council Implementing Decision 2012/256/CFSP of 14 May 2012 implementing Council Decision 2011/782/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Syria
OJ L 126, 15.5.2012, p. 9–11

Council Implementing Regulation (EU) No 410/2012 of 14 May 2012 implementing Article 32(1) of Regulation (EU) No 36/2012 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Syria
OJ L 126, 15.5.2012, p. 3–5

Council Implementing Decision 2012/167/CFSP of 23 March 2012 implementing Decision 2011/486/CFSP concerning restrictive measures directed against certain individuals, groups, undertakings and entities in view of the situation in Afghanistan
OJ L 87, 24.3.2012, p. 60–84

Council Implementing Regulation (EU) No 263/2012 of 23 March 2012 implementing Article 11(1) of Regulation (EU) No 753/2011 concerning restrictive measures directed against certain individuals, groups, undertakings and entities in view of the situation in Afghanistan
OJ L 87, 24.3.2012, p. 1–25

Council Decision 2012/168/CFSP of 23 March 2012 amending Decision 2011/235/CFSP concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons and entities in view of the situation in Iran
OJ L 87, 24.3.2012, p. 85–89

Council Regulation (EU) No 264/2012 of 23 March 2012 amending Regulation (EU) No 359/2011 concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons, entities and bodies in view of the situation in Iran
OJ L 87, 24.3.2012, p. 26–36

Council Decision 2012/205/CFSP of 23 April 2012 amending Decision 2010/413/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Iran
OJ L 110, 24.4.2012, p. 35–35

Council Regulation (EU) No 267/2012 of 23 March 2012 concerning restrictive measures against Iran and repealing Regulation (EU) No 961/2010
OJ L 88, 24.3.2012, p. 1–112

Council Conclusions on Pooling and Sharing of Military Capabilities
7682/12

Council Conclusions on Sahel
8067/12

Council Conclusions on Belarus
8102/12

Council Conclusions on Syria
8076/12

3158th meeting of the Council of the European Union (General Affairs) held in Brussels on 26 March 2012

Council Decision adopting the Council position on draft amending budget No 1 of the European Union for the financial year 2012
OJ C 116, 20.4.2012, p. 1–1

2012/261/EU: Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 April 2012 on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund in accordance with point 28 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 17 May 2006 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline and sound financial management (application EGF/2011/006 ES/Comunidad Valenciana Construction of buildings from Spain)
OJ L 130, 17.5.2012, p. 21–21

2012/232/EU: Council Implementing Decision of 26 April 2012 authorising Romania to apply measures derogating from Article 26(1)(a) and Article 168 of Directive 2006/112/EC on the common system of value added tax
OJ L 117, 1.5.2012, p. 7–8

2012/189/EU: Council Decision of 26 March 2012 on the conclusion of the International Cocoa Agreement 2010
OJ L 102, 12.4.2012, p. 1–1

Council Decision on the conclusion of the Regional Convention on pan-Euro-Mediterranean preferential rules of origin
11343/10 + COR 1 (el)

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE ACTS MARCH 2012			
TITLE OF LEGISLATIVE ACT	TEXTS ADOPTED	VOTING RULE	VOTES
3151st meeting of the Council of the European Union (Justice and Home Affairs) held in Brussels on 8 March 2012 Decision No 281/2012/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 March 2012 amending Decision No 573/2007/EC establishing the European Refugee Fund for the period 2008 to 2013 as part of the General programme ‘Solidarity and Management of Migration Flows’	6444/12 + COR 1 (fi) + COR 2 (de) + REV 1 (lt) + ADD 1 + ADD 1 COR 1 + ADD 1 COR 2 + ADD 1 COR 3	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour except of: UK against, DK, IE not participating
Statement of the Commission The Commission, in a spirit of compromise and in order to ensure the immediate adoption of the proposal, supports the final text; however it notes that this is without prejudice to its right of initiative with regard to the choice of legal bases, in particular in reference to the future use of Article 80 TFEU.			
Statement of the Council The Council states that the present decision is without prejudice to the negotiations on the Multiannual Financial Framework for 2014-2020 and consequently also for the negotiations on the “Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Asylum and Migration Fund” for the period 2014-2020 (COM(2011) 751), including whether specific common EU resettlement priorities, based inter alia on geographical criteria, shall be stipulated in the Regulation on the Asylum and Migration Fund for 2014-2020.			

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE ACTS MARCH 2012			
TITLE OF LEGISLATIVE ACT	TEXTS ADOPTED	VOTING RULE	VOTES
Regulation (EU) No 258/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 March 2012 implementing Article 10 of the United Nations' Protocol against the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime (UN Firearms Protocol), and establishing export authorisation, and import and transit measures for firearms, their parts and components and ammunition Statement by Germany, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ireland and the Netherlands regarding the practical implementation of Article 11(2) and (3) of the Regulation When carrying out the obligation in Article 11(2) of the Regulation to notify the competent authorities of the other Member States on refusals, annulments, suspensions, modifications or revocations concerning export authorisations and when making use of the possibility in Article 11(3) of the Regulation to consult the competent authorities of the other Member States which have issued refusals, annulments, suspensions, modifications or revocations Germany, the Netherlands, Czech Republic, Ireland and Denmark will use the existing communication channel already used for exchange of information pursuant to Article 4(1) of the Council Common Position 2008/944/CFSP (COREU).	PE-CONS 41/11	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour except of: DK against
Directive 2012/12/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 April 2012 amending Council Directive 2001/112/EC relating to fruit juices and certain similar products intended for human consumption	PE-CONS 74/11	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour except of: DE against

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE ACTS MARCH 2012			
TITLE OF LEGISLATIVE ACT	TEXTS ADOPTED	VOTING RULE	VOTES
German statement For Germany, appropriate provisions for fruit juices are of particular importance. However, some of the proposed provisions amending Directive 2001/112/EC would lead to a decisively less restrictive EU legislation and would involve a deterioration of the quality of the affected products, and thus potentially misleading consumers as concerns the quality standard. This is especially relevant as regards the proposed changes relating to restoration of natural fruit flavour of fruit juice (directly obtained from the fruits, not from concentrate) and fruit juice from concentrate. • According to the existing EU-law, only the fruit flavour temporarily lost during processing of the fruit juice may be restored to the same juice at the end of the production process. The proposed less restrictive approach, i.e. permitting also the addition of flavour obtained during other production processes and a more or less unrestricted addition of flavour, does not correspond to consumer expectations as regards fruit juice. • In addition, the proposed changes towards a voluntary instead of a mandatory flavour restoration of fruit juice from concentrate as required under existing EU-law also induce a deterioration of the quality of the products and misleading of consumers. This is especially relevant as regards fruit juice from concentrate containing several fruits (,several fruits juice') since according to the proposed changes, flavour of a high quality fruit contributing essentially to the taste of the final product, does not need to be restored any longer. Consumers may rightly expect that a ,several fruits juice' contains natural fruit flavour from all of the fruits used for the production of the respective fruit juice from concentrates. A deterioration of the quality of fruit juices from concentrate is also connected with the lowering of the requirements concerning water used for restoration. According to the existing EU-law, drinking water would not be sufficient in general taking into account the high quality standards as regards the production of fruit juice from concentrate. In fact, using drinking water could result in an unintended accumulation of e. g. sodium or nitrate. Concerning the amendment of Directive 2011/112/EC, Germany would have favoured very much a more quality- and consumer related approach. Therefore, Germany is not in a position to agree to the compromise text amending Directive 2001/112/EC as proposed due to the remaining concerns. Joint statement by the United Kingdom, Italy, France, Greece, Spain and Portugal The UK, Italy, France, Greece, Spain and Portugal express their concern about the potential wider impact of the provision on Annex I, chapter II, point 2, fifth indent, second paragraph of the present Directive. They underline that such a provision should not be used in the future for other food categories from Regulation 1924/2006. They will examine any future proposal by the Commission on the use of the claim "no added sugar" in the context of Regulation 1924/2006 and with the aim to avoid any inconsistencies with other relevant pieces of EU legislation.			

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE ACTS MARCH 2012			
TITLE OF LEGISLATIVE ACT	TEXTS ADOPTED	VOTING RULE	VOTES
Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a single European railway area (Recast) Statement by Austria "In principle, Austria supports the initiative to recast the first railway package with the aim of simplifying the regulatory environment in the European railway sector. The competitiveness of rail transport as an environmentally friendly alternative to the road is of crucial importance to Austria. However, at European level only the framework principles should be laid down for the sector and it should be left to states to organise their rail sector within the framework of the European objectives. Any mandatory separation of bodies, beyond separate accounts and balance sheets, leads to disproportionate additional financial and organisational burdens and to disproportionate interference in railway undertakings' freedom of economic decision making, which Austria does not support. Austria therefore rejects the wording of Article 13(3) and (6) and cannot accept the position of the Council in first reading."	18581/11 + COR 1 + COR 2 (pl) + REV 1 (el) + ADD 1	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour except of: LU, AT against EE abstention
3156th meeting of the Council of the European Union (TRANSPORT TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY) held in Brussels on 22 March 2012 Regulation (EU) No 386/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 April 2012 on entrusting the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (Trade Marks and Designs) with tasks related to the enforcement of intellectual property rights, including the assembling of public and private-sector representatives as a European Observatory on Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights Text with EEA relevance Statement by the Council and the Commission "This Regulation cannot be interpreted as including or conferring any powers or obligations which fall under Title V of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union."	PE-CONS 80/11 + REV 1 (sv)	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour except of: DE abstention

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE ACTS MARCH 2012			
TITLE OF LEGISLATIVE ACT	TEXTS ADOPTED	VOTING RULE	VOTES
Regulation (EU) No 387/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 April 2012 amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1198/2006 on the European Fisheries Fund, as regards certain provisions relating to financial management for certain Member States experiencing or threatened with serious difficulties with respect to their financial stability Joint statement of the Commission and the Council on budgetary impact The Council and the Commission consider that the subject Regulation shall also be considered in the context of the budgetary restraints facing all Member States, which should be reflected appropriately in the EU budget for 2012 and 2013. Any increased amounts for the payments consequent on the entry into force of this regulation should be accommodated through the procedure for the Commission to present updated figures concerning payment appropriations under heading 2 by September 2012 and, if necessary to utilise the Global Transfer exercise for 2012, subject to other possible needs under other financial framework headings, and if then still necessary to present a draft amending budget for this sole purpose. Council state ment on co-financing and 2014-2020 perspective The Council confirms that the co-financing principle is a fundamental principle of the Common Fisheries Policy, as it ensures ownership of, responsibility for and selection of the projects with the highest value added. Any relaxation of this principle should therefore be exceptional. The current amendment is justified by the unprecedented crisis affecting international financial markets and the economic downturn and should be without prejudice to the outcome of the negotiations on the CFP legislative package for the next financing period.	PE-CONS 1/12	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour except of: BG abstention

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE ACTS MARCH 2012			
TITLE OF LEGISLATIVE ACT	TEXTS ADOPTED	VOTING RULE	VOTES
Statement of the Republic of Bulgaria 1. The Republic of Bulgaria has consistently supported the opinion that resolving issues related to the financial and economic crisis requires a coordinated approach at the EU level. The crisis has put national budgets under pressure and has led to challenges for the investment process everywhere in the European Union. 2. The Republic of Bulgaria maintains serious reserve with regard to the proposal for temporary increase in the co-financing rates from the EU funds for the EU Member States which are under financial assistance programmes. 3. The proposed approach discriminates against the Member States which have put extremely important efforts in the years of the crisis to maintain financial and fiscal discipline and have avoided being in a situation of liquidity difficulties. The proposal should have also created incentive mechanisms for the efforts of the Member States which have been disciplined. It should have also encompassed the Member States which stick to financial and fiscal discipline but which because of the economic crisis also undergo temporary difficulties in safeguarding co-financing. 4. The refusal to undertake such an approach may lead to “wrong” incentives to the ones which have not maintained financial and fiscal discipline. The amendment could potentially have a discouraging effect on the Member States in adhering to the Stability and Growth Pact and sticking to sound and sustainable fiscal policy. 5. This position has been expressed by the Bulgarian Prime Minister at the European Council, as well as in the General Affairs Council and ECOFIN. It also has the support of the Bulgarian Parliament.			
3158th meeting of the Council of the European Union (General Affairs) held in Brussels on 26 March 2012 Council Decision adopting the Council position on draft amending budget No 1 of the European Union for the financial year 2012	7422/12	Qualified majority	All Member States in favour except of: Abstention: LU, NL, SE

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF OTHER ACTS MARCH 2012	
OTHER ACTS	Votes/Statements made public
3151st meeting of the Council of the European Union (Justice and Home Affairs) held in Brussels on 8 March 2012 Council Conclusions on the follow-up to the Schengen evaluation conducted in 2009-2010 - Schengen evaluation of France 6334/12 Council Implementing Decision 2012/144/CFSP of 8 March 2012 implementing Decision 2010/656/CFSP renewing the restrictive measures against Côte d'Ivoire 6413/12 Council Implementing Regulation (EU) No 193/2012 of 8 March 2012 implementing Regulation (EC) No 560/2005 imposing certain specific restrictive measures directed against certain persons and entities in view of the situation in Côte d'Ivoire 6416/12 2009/496/EC, Euratom: Decision of the European Parliament, the Council, the Commission, the Court of Justice, the Court of Auditors, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions of 26 June 2009 on the organisation and operation of the Publications Office of the European Union 6402/12 Council Decision on the conclusion of an Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and the Kingdom of Morocco concerning reciprocal liberalisation measures on agricultural products, processed agricultural products, fish and fishery products, the replacement of Protocols 1, 2 and 3 and their Annexes and amendments to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Kingdom of Morocco, of the other part 15975/10	

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF OTHER ACTS MARCH 2012	
OTHER ACTS	Votes/Statements made public
2012/176/EU: Council Decision of 8 March 2012 on the conclusion of a Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Kingdom of Morocco, of the other part, on a framework agreement between the European Union and the Kingdom of Morocco on the general principles for the participation of the Kingdom of Morocco in Union programmes 12712/10 + COR 1 (en) Council Conclusions on Special Report No 12/2011 from the European Court of Auditors entitled "Have EU measures contributed to adapting the capacity of the fishing fleets to available fishing opportunities?" 6508/12 2012/243/EU: Council Decision of 8 March 2012 on the conclusion of a Memorandum of Cooperation between the European Union and the International Civil Aviation Organization providing a framework for enhanced cooperation, and laying down procedural arrangements related thereto 9138/11 + COR 1 (fi) Council Conclusions regarding guidelines for the strengthening of political governance in the Schengen cooperation 7238/12 REV 2 Council Conclusions on a common framework for genuine and practical solidarity towards Member States facing particular pressures on their asylum systems including through mixed migration flows 7115/12 Council Conclusions regarding guidelines for the strengthening of political governance in the Schengen cooperation 7238/12 REV 2	

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF OTHER ACTS MARCH 2012	
OTHER ACTS	Votes/Statements made public
3152nd meeting of the Council of the European Union (Environment) held in Brussels on 9 March 2012 Council Decision on a Union position within the EU-U.S. Joint Customs Cooperation Committee regarding mutual recognition of the Authorised Economic Operator Programme of the European Union and the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism Program of the United States 6759/12 ADD 1 COR 1 (It) Statement by the Council The Council fully supports the Decision to enter into AEO mutual recognition with the US which will secure the international supply chain and facilitate trade between the European Union and the USA. Realising that Section V, third paragraph forth indent and the treatment of data by the Contracting Parties, is of national importance to the USA, the EU and its Member States have agreed to its inclusion on an exceptional basis. Should other third countries wish to have such a provision included in an EU-third country agreement, these will be assessed case by case, taking into consideration data protection and other relevant legal provisions. Council Decision on the signing and conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia establishing a framework for the participation of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in European Union crisis management operations 6653/12	

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF OTHER ACTS MARCH 2012	
OTHER ACTS	Votes/Statements made public
Statement by the Member States of the EU applying an EU Council Decision on an EU crisis management operation, in which the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia participates regarding the waiver of claims, for the participation of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in EU crisis management operations The EU Member States applying an EU Council Decision on an EU crisis management operation in which the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia participates will endeavour, insofar as their internal legal systems so permit, to waive as far as possible claims against the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia for injury, death of their personnel, or damage to, or loss of, any assets owned by themselves and used by the EU crisis management operation if such injury, death, damage or loss: – was caused by personnel from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in the execution of their duties in connection with the EU crisis management operation, except in case of gross negligence or wilful misconduct, – or arose from the use of any assets owned by the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia , provided that the assets were used in connection with the operation and except in case of gross negligence or wilful misconduct of EU crisis management operation personnel from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia using those assets. Statement by the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia regarding the waiver of claims against any State participating in EU crisis management operations The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia applying an EU Council Decision on an EU crisis management operation will endeavour, insofar as its internal legal system so permit, to waive as far as possible claims against any other State participating in the EU crisis management operation for injury, death of its personnel, or damage to, or loss of, any assets owned by itself and used by the EU crisis management operation if such injury, death, damage or loss: – was caused by personnel in the execution of their duties in connection with the EU crisis management operation, except in case of gross negligence or wilful misconduct, or – arose from the use of any assets owned by States participating in the EU crisis management operation, provided that the assets were used in connection with the operation and except in case of gross negligence or wilful misconduct of EU crisis management operation personnel using those assets. Council Decision on the signing and conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and Bosnia and Herzegovina establishing a framework for the participation of Bosnia and Herzegovina in European Union crisis management operations 17177/11	

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OTHER ACTS	Votes/Statements made public
Statement by the Member States of the EU applying an EU Council Decision on an EU crisis management operation, in which Bosnia and Herzegovina participates regarding the waiver of claims, for the participation of Bosnia and Herzegovina in EU crisis management operations The EU Member States applying an EU Council Decision on an EU crisis management operation in which Bosnia and Herzegovina participates will endeavour, insofar as their internal legal systems so permit, to waive as far as possible claims against Bosnia and Herzegovina for injury, death of their personnel, or damage to, or loss of, any assets owned by themselves and used by the EU crisis management operation if such injury, death, damage or loss: – was caused by personnel from Bosnia and Herzegovina in the execution of their duties in connection with the EU crisis management operation, except in case of gross negligence or wilful misconduct, – or arose from the use of any assets owned by Bosnia and Herzegovina, provided that the assets were used in connection with the operation and except in case of gross negligence or wilful misconduct of EU crisis management operation personnel from Bosnia and Herzegovina using those assets. Statement by Bosnia and Herzegovina regarding the waiver of claims against any State participating in EU crisis management operations Bosnia and Herzegovina applying an EU Council Decision on an EU crisis management operation will endeavour, insofar as its internal legal system so permit, to waive as far as possible claims against any other State participating in the EU crisis management operation for injury, death of its personnel, or damage to, or loss of, any assets owned by itself and used by the EU crisis management operation if such injury, death, damage or loss: – was caused by personnel in the execution of their duties in connection with the EU crisis management operation, except in case of gross negligence or wilful misconduct, – or arose from the use of any assets owned by States participating in the EU crisis management operation, provided that the assets were used in connection with the operation and except in case of gross negligence or wilful misconduct of EU crisis management operation personnel using those assets. Council Conclusions on a Roadmap for moving to a competitive low-carbon economy in 2050 6837/12 Council Conclusions on a follow-up to the 17th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 17) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the 7th session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP 7) (Durban, South Africa, 28 November - 9 December 2011) 6841/12	

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Council Conclusions on Rio + 20: Pathways to a sustainable future 6892/12 3153rd meeting of the COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION (Economic and Financial Affairs) held in Brussels on 13 March 2012 Council Conclusions on the Special Report No 13/2011 by the Court of Auditors concerning customs procedure 42 6967/12 + COR 1 + COR 2 (pt) 2012/193/EU: Council Decision of 13 March 2012 on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Arrangement between the European Union and the Republic of Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Kingdom of Norway and the Swiss Confederation on the participation by those States in the work of the committees which assist the European Commission in the exercise of its executive powers as regards the implementation, application and development of the Schengen acquis 7763/10 REV 1 Council Conclusions on the EU's position for the 85th Session of the International Cocoa Organisation (ICCO) Council (Guayaquil, Ecuador, 26-30 March 2012) 7148/12 REV 1 Council Decision 2012/149/CFSP of 13 March 2012 amending Decision 2010/638/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against the Republic of Guinea 6803/12 Council Decision 2012/150/CFSP of 13 March 2012 amending Decision 2011/872/CFSP updating the list of persons, groups and entities subject to Articles 2, 3 and 4 of Common Position 2001/931/CFSP on the application of specific measures to combat terrorism 6996/12	

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Council Implementing Regulation (EU) No 213/2012 of 13 March 2012 amending Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1375/2011 implementing Article 2(3) of Regulation (EC) No 2580/2001 on specific restrictive measures directed against certain persons and entities with a view to combating terrorism 6999/12 + COR 1 (en) 2012/156/EU: Council Implementing Decision of 13 March 2012 suspending commitments from the Cohesion Fund for Hungary with effect from 1 January 2013 6952/12 + COR 1 (sl) Council Conclusions on Alert Mechanism Report 6905/12 REV 1 2012/211/EU: Council Decision of 13 March 2012 amending Decision 2011/734/EU addressed to Greece with a view to reinforcing and deepening fiscal surveillance and giving notice to Greece to take measures for the deficit reduction judged necessary to remedy the situation of excessive deficit 7504/12 3154th meeting of the Council of the European Union (Foreign Affairs/Trade) held in Brussels on 16 March 2012 Council Conclusions on the EU's approach to trade, growth and development in the next decade 7412/12 3155th meeting of the Council of the European Union (AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES) held in Brussels on 19 and 20 March 2012 Council Conclusions on an EU strategy regarding the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) 7132/12 REV 1	

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Council Conclusions on the Special Report No 11/2011 from the European Court of Auditors entitled "Do the design and management of the geographical indications scheme allow it to be effective?" 7484/12 Council Decision of 19 March 2012 renewing the term of office of the Vice-President of the Community Plant Variety Office 6757/12 Council Decision 2012/159/CFSP of 19 March 2012 amending Decision 2011/172/CFSP concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons, entities and bodies in view of the situation in Egypt 7451/12 Council Decision 2012/158/CFSP of 19 March 2012 amending Decision 2011/173/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina 7350/12 2012/177/EU: Council Decision of 19 March 2012 amending Decision 1999/70/EC concerning the external auditors of the national central banks, as regards the external auditors of the Bank of Greece 6627/12 Council Conclusions on a Communication from the Commission on the External dimension of the Common Fisheries Policy 7087/12 REV 1 ADD 1 COR 1	

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3157th meeting of the Council of the European Union (FOREIGN AFFAIRS) held in Brussels on 22 and 23 March 2012 Council Decision on the signing and conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Albania establishing a framework for the participation of the Republic of Albania in European Union crisis management operations 9993/11 Council Decision 2012/174/CFSP of 23 March 2012 amending Joint Action 2008/851/CFSP on a European Union military operation to contribute to the deterrence, prevention and repression of acts of piracy and armed robbery off the Somali coast 6691/12 + COR 1 (de) Council Decision 2012/173/CFSP of 23 March 2012 on the activation of the EU Operations Centre for the Common Security and Defence Policy missions and operation in the Horn of Africa 5643/12 Council Decision 2012/166/CFSP of 23 March 2012 in support of activities of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) in the framework of the implementation of the EU Strategy against Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction 6876/12 + COR 1 (hu) Approval of the position to be adopted by the European Union and its Member States within the Association Council established by the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, of the other part, with regard to the adoption of a Recommendation on the implementation of the EU-Jordan ENP Action Plan 7685/12 REV 1 ADD 1	

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Statement by the Commission following the adoption of Council Conclusions on EU position to be taken in the EU-Jordan Association Council The Commission notes that the final text adopted by the Council deviates from the original proposal, which envisaged a single decision by the Council, in line with the practice before the entry into force of the Treaty of Lisbon. The Commission understands that the procedure followed in this case is not a precedent for the procedure to be used for the adoption of future positions of the Union as regards other action plans. Council Decision 2012/170/CFSP of 23 March 2012 amending Decision 2010/573/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against the leadership of the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova 7631/12 Council Implementing Decision 2012/171/CFSP of 23 March 2012 implementing Decision 2010/639/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Belarus 7758/12 ADD 1 Council Implementing Regulation (EU) No 265/2012 of 23 March 2012 implementing Article 8a(1) of Regulation (EC) No 765/2006 concerning restrictive measures in respect of Belarus 7760/12 ADD 1 Council Implementing Decision 2012/256/CFSP of 14 May 2012 implementing Council Decision 2011/782/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Syria 7762/12 ADD 1 Council Implementing Regulation (EU) No 410/2012 of 14 May 2012 implementing Article 32(1) of Regulation (EU) No 36/2012 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Syria 7763/12 ADD 1 Council Implementing Decision 2012/167/CFSP of 23 March 2012 implementing Decision 2011/486/CFSP concerning restrictive measures directed against certain individuals, groups, undertakings and entities in view of the situation in Afghanistan 7013/12	

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Council Implementing Regulation (EU) No 263/2012 of 23 March 2012 implementing Article 11(1) of Regulation (EU) No 753/2011 concerning restrictive measures directed against certain individuals, groups, undertakings and entities in view of the situation in Afghanistan 7020/12 + ADD 1 REV 1 Council Decision 2012/168/CFSP of 23 March 2012 amending Decision 2011/235/CFSP concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons and entities in view of the situation in Iran 7628/12 ADD 1 REV 1 Council Regulation (EU) No 264/2012 of 23 March 2012 amending Regulation (EU) No 359/2011 concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons, entities and bodies in view of the situation in Iran 7740/12 ADD 1 COR 1 Council Decision 2012/205/CFSP of 23 April 2012 amending Decision 2010/413/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Iran 7630/12 Council Regulation (EU) No 267/2012 of 23 March 2012 concerning restrictive measures against Iran and repealing Regulation (EU) No 961/2010 6697/12 Statement by the Council and the Commission 1. Delegations agreed to examine the issue of the need to ensure the continuation of services provided under safety and maintenance contracts for assets used in connection with the exploration for or exploitation of hydrocarbons within the European Union, in order to prevent a risk of environmental damage and a risk of destruction of such assets. 2. The Council and Commission agreed that, no later than the FAC meeting in May 2012, they would review the exemption (applicable until 1 July 2012) provided for in Article 12(2) of the Council Regulation, concerning the provision, directly or indirectly, of third party liability insurance and environmental liability insurance and reinsurance. In taking forward this review, the Council and Commission will take due account of the availability and price of crude oil and petroleum products produced in countries other than Iran and of the impact on the global oil markets and on third countries taking similar measures against Iran resulting from the termination of this exemption.	

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Council Conclusions on Pooling and Sharing of Military Capabilities 7682/12 Council Conclusions on Sahel 8067/12 Council Conclusions on Belarus 8102/12 Council Conclusions on Syria 8076/12 3158th meeting of the Council of the European Union (General Affairs) held in Brussels on 26 March 2012 2012/261/EU: Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 April 2012 on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund in accordance with point 28 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 17 May 2006 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline and sound financial management (application EGF/2011/006 ES/Comunidad Valenciana Construction of buildings from Spain) 7377/12 2012/232/EU: Council Implementing Decision of 26 April 2012 authorising Romania to apply measures derogating from Article 26(1)(a) and Article 168 of Directive 2006/112/EC on the common system of value added tax 7009/12 + REV 1 (da) 2012/189/EU: Council Decision of 26 March 2012 on the conclusion of the International Cocoa Agreement 2010 7711/12 Council Decision on the conclusion of the Regional Convention on pan-Euro-Mediterranean preferential rules of origin 11343/10 + COR 1 (el)	